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PLO OFFICIAL VIEWS RELATIONS WITH IRAN, ACTION AGAINST U.S.

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[Interview by Claude Khoury with Hani al-Hasan, PLO representative in Tehran, in Beirut on 29 March]

[Text] Question: How would you evaluate the support that you have received so far from the Iranian provisional government? Has it been limited to political and moral support, or has it gone beyond that to financial and military assistance?

Answer: The greatest support we have received from the provisional Iranian government, of course, lies in the fact that it has replaced the government of the Shah. Political and strategic support is more important than any other kind of support the Iranian revolution can give us.

We must not forget that this government is no more than three months old. It is still engrossed in the country's internal situation and its own quite considerable problems. Anyone who inherits the works of a dictatorial system like the shah's has to deal with corruption in the economy, in agriculture, in trade, in foreign policy. . .

The Iranian revolution represents a root change in the nature of Iranian Government. And yet, despite the fact that the revolution has this enormous historic job to do, we find it taking a position on the Palestinian cause at every possible opportunity. The most recent opportunity came when Carter visited the Middle East. On that occasion, Khomeyni insisted on issuing a statement, in addition to the statement issued by Foreign Minister Sanjabi, who also sent a personal letter about the situation in the Middle East to our brother Abu 'Ammar.

The transformation of Iran from an Israeli camp to a Palestinian camp, from a pro-American fortress into a fortress of nonalignment, from a sword in the hands of the shah to a sword in the hands of the people, who are using it against Zionism and imperialism--that is the greatest backing that the Palestinian revolution can hope for.

Our major task in Iran is to see how we can support the Iranian revolution, whose victory represents more gains to us than any material or other kind of assistance.

Question: Does this mean that the Iranian revolution is not giving you military or financial aid?

Answer: The fact is that this question was discussed in Tehran, but our answer was that our mission now was to bolster the Iranian revolution, after which these matters can be discussed. That is when Sanjabi made his famous statement: "We are ready to give the Palestinians financial aid, but they have not asked for it."

The PLO in Iran aspires for much more than financial assistance or limited support of that nature. We have great hopes pinned on Iranian-Palestinian-Arab relations. They can become an impregnable wall in the face of the imperialist offensive against us, which, with the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, appears to be turning into a vicious assault. They have created a new front to help Israel. Our task now is to build an anti-Israeli front stronger than any that has ever been formed.

Thus, we don't discuss small matters with our Iranian brothers, despite the fact that they have wanted to discuss them. We have no desire to dwarf our relations by going into problems that we are perfectly capable of handling through other means.

In this connection, I might mention an important development that occurred lately--something to do with oranges:

There was once no market for Gaza oranges. The Israelis used to wait till the end of the orange season and buy Gaza's orange crop at very low prices, paying 150 or 200 dollars for a ton, which is usually worth 600 dollars, and using it to make orange juice. This made the Palestinian farmer opt for only one orange season per year. Profits plummeted and many found themselves unemployed.

Recently, with the "autonomy" project approaching, the PLO decided to solve this problem. We were pleased when Iran, despite the fact that it does not need oranges, decided to buy one third of the Gaza crop, while Saudi Arabia decided to buy the other two thirds. Talks on this matter were held in Tehran with both the Iranians and the Saudis. Sa'ud al-Faysal cabled that his country was ready to buy the entire Gaza crop, but Imam Khomeyni insisted on participating in this operation.

This is an important matter at this stage. The Gaza farmer can now have more than one orange season, which will give the Palestinians more work opportunities and keep them away from Israeli jobs.

The development is also an indication of the type of relationship between the Iranian and Palestinian revolutions. Iran stepped in and bought the oranges despite the fact that its intervention was not necessary. It was a matter of participation.

This is one instance of Iranian assistance. All other fields are wide open, but the Palestinian revolution has gone beyond the stage of small ambitions.

To set up high-level relations, the Palestinian resistance must provide evidence that it has gone beyond the adolescence stage, that it is no longer in a rush, and that its plans are long-range and strategic in nature.

Our position on Iran is one demonstration of this. We alone stood against the shah and played a significant role in supporting the Iranian revolution. The result of our four years of patience and unannounced relations: The Israelis left (?Iran) and the Palestinians entered.

God willing, we will realize greater and greater ambitions in the next stage. We will go beyond material matters. Great good is coming from Iran.

Question: Has the Iranian Government's preoccupation with internal affairs, including the mutiny of some minorities and the referendum on the Islamic republic option, limited the possibilities of effective Iranian support for the PLO at this stage?

Answer: The Iranian Government is busy with many things, but there is one matter it has not forgotten--Palestine and Jerusalem.

In the last meeting I had with Ayatollah Khomeyni, I tried to explain to him the benefits of supporting the Palestinian cause, and how such support would bring Iran untold gains. I said that anyone who takes hold of the Palestinian cause would be holding the steering wheel of the entire region. Interrupting me, he said that although this was true, "we are with the Palestinian revolution, whether our support for it benefits us or not. Jerusalem, to us, is an Islamic Iranian village, and we will never abandon it, even if others do."

This is only one indication of Iran's decisiveness on the Palestinian issue. For this reason, the Palestinian revolution considers the victory of the Iranian revolution its own victory. Any setback for the Iranian revolution, God forbid, would be a setback for us, because each of us considers himself totally involved in the other's cause.

If you know anything about geopolitics, you will realize that if Iran, Turkey and the Arabs were to unite in one camp, the noose would be pulled tight around Israel's neck. That is why Begin said about the Iranian revolution that "the Dark Ages" were returning. That is why Dayan said that an earthquake had occurred and that Israel was bound to feel it, because Iran is in an important position and, more significantly, the Iranian leadership considers the Palestinian cause one of its own internal issues.

Question: Do you have frequent meetings with Ayatollah Khomeyni?

Answer: We have a unique position in Iran. We sleep in the homes of Iranian officials, for instance. When something comes up, we go to the Imam's home and stay there several days. There are no such things as protocol or appointments between us. We are in the house, and we talk even in the hours usually set aside for rest.

We have played a role in improving relations between Iran and a number of countries. We have arranged for visits to Iran by a number of Arab regimes, nationalist forces and non-Arab officials. We have been able to do this because of our closeness to Imam Khomeyni and our constant contact with him.

We have opened an information office in Ahwaz, and we will open a huge Palestinian library in Qom. There are students in Qom, whose religious university has 12,000 students, who will be studying the Palestinian revolution. Our brother Abu 'Ammar, speaking on behalf of the PLO, has promised to open a huge library which would include all Palestinian books, books that have been written about Palestine and books that have been published by the PLO. The library will also have an auditorium for motion pictures and will serve as an information office.

I believe we will also open an office in Kurdistan, in Sanandaj, in the near future. We have already started publishing WAFA (the PALESTINIAN NEWS AGENCY) in Persian. We distribute 800 copies of it daily. They have asked us for 1,700 copies as of next month (April), because the agency distributes to Iranian officials by name.

Question: Will any Palestinian students be going to Iran?

Answer: During the days of the shah, anyone who allowed a Palestinian to pass through Iran was punished. Now, a number of Palestinian students have gone to Iran via Jordan. I believe that when the universities open for the next academic year, many Palestinian students will, through the PLO, start their studies there.

You cannot imagine the support the Palestinians are getting from the Iranian people and Imam Khomeyni.

No one can claim that he has influenced the Iranians and made them stand by the Palestinians. Iranian support for the Palestinians cannot be increased. It is at a peak. And I had nothing to do with that. My job, of course, is to maintain this support, and it isn't any easy job, because the Iranians are keen observers; they demand a great deal, on the intellectual and behavioral levels.

Nothing is off limits for the PLO in Iran, but we know this is a stage in which a dictatorial regime is being ended and preparations are being made to start the confrontation with imperialism and Zionism. The situation now is much better than one would expect it to be, but more time is needed for total stability to be established. That is why we are taking our time about asking for anything.

Question: There have been many press reports about clashes between Premier Bazargan and Khomeyni. Is the PLO more in harmony with Khomeyni or with Bazargan?

Answer: A major campaign has been started to spread lies and malicious rumors about Iran all over the world. This is because the anti-Iran forces, led by Zionism, were taken by surprise by Khomeyni's swift takeover in the country. They are waging an information war against him outside Iran and instigating insurrection inside it.

One of the rumors that have been started is that the Islamic system in Iran is fanatic and will take a position against Christianity. But the new Iranian constitution, which will be announced within three weeks, I believe, includes an article which clearly states that the major religions in Iran are Islam, Christianity, Judaism and another faith which I cannot remember at the moment

And when I told Imam Khomeyni that Archbishop (Hilarion) Capucci wanted to visit Iran, he welcomed the suggestion. He was really very happy about the archbishop coming to Iran. (Arranging for the archbishop's visit is the top item on my list of priorities now.) Also, Khomeyni did not object at all when I told him that the World Council of Churches wanted to visit Iran and present its congratulations. I am now in the process of arranging the visit.

Thus, it is plain to see that this campaign is aimed at distorting the image of Iran and isolating that country, to facilitate action against it. Our mission, through the Palestinian forces spread out around the world, is to block this drive.

Relations between Bazargan and Khomeyni are very good. Everyone considers himself the disciple of Khomeyni--this man who has staged the greatest revolution in modern history. But is it conceivable, after the fall of a dictatorial regime, for the men who take over to agree on all matters? It's impossible, especially since Khomeyni is not the bargaining type. He's flexible, but I don't think he has ever bargained over anything, in his life.

Opinions differ, and the current Iranian system is democratic, especially since the Shi'ite method of work allows for interpretation of Islamic law, which naturally leads to a variety of views. Such is Khomeyni's confidence in himself that he has no objection to the publication of those views. In countries which are not accustomed to democracy, any divergence of views is considered disunity, but that is not the case.

I can say that Imam Khomeyni has, from the first days of the revolution, been playing the role of the engine. There was a need for someone to play the role of the brakes. That, in my opinion, sums up the relationship between Khomeyni and the government.

Question: Some political observers are saying that the American administration's answer to the Iranian revolution is the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. From a Palestinian viewpoint, does the gaining of Iran balance the losing of Egypt?

Answer: To get the right answer, you must ask the right question, and the right question is this: Does gaining Iran represent a strong response to losing Egypt, which was lost before the victory of the Iranian revolution?

We lost the Egyptian regime and its role in the battle when As-Sadat went to Jerusalem. Everything that has been happening since then has been nothing but the result of that visit.

I was one of those who said that Carter's trip to the Middle East was an election tour. Making the matter look complicated was for the benefit of American public opinion. We knew where Egypt stood when As-Sadat visited Jerusalem. The response to Carter was Iran's great historic revolution, which established that, in the present age, it is the Israelis who leave and the Palestinians who enter. In 1948, the Israelis were coming in and we were going out. Now, things have changed.

When the Iranian revolution is consolidated, and if the Arab meeting now being held in Baghdad succeeds in forming a military front against Israel, the outstanding role that Iran can play will begin to emerge, and it will become clear that the defeat which started with the Jerusalem visit was the beginning of our counter-offensive.

No matter how hard Carter and Begin try to prove that Israel is part of this region, their attempts will fail. There is a basic contradiction between us and Israel. Whoever recognizes Israel will fall, and our cause will survive, because our cause is nothing short of a law of physics. Whoever says he doesn't believe in Newton's Law will fall, and Newton's law will remain. Whoever says Israel can live in this region will fall, and the Arab-Israeli conflict will continue.

Question: But doesn't a Palestinian naturally feel closer to the Egyptians than to the Iranians?

Answer: No, of course not. I feel that Imam Khomeyni is closer to us than Anwar as-Sadat. I also feel that an Iranian Muslim who believes in the Palestinian cause is a hundred times closer to me than a Turkish Muslim who has relations with Israel.

In the final analysis, we base our relations with any country on its attitude to Israel, imperialism and dictatorship.

Take Turkey's Ecevit. Any Iranian, Muslim or Christian, is a hundred times closer to me than that Muslim. An anti-Zionist European is closer to me than the Muslim Ecevit, who recognizes Israel.

The important thing is not only religious doctrine, but also one's political position on what is right and what is wrong.

Question: I am not talking about religion, but about culture. Egyptians are Arabs. Iranians have a different culture.

Answer: But in the final analysis, all cultures in this region spring from Islam and Christianity.

One might say: Who is closer to us, the Cuban or the Iranian?

Still, in the final analysis, the Egyptian is part of the Arab nation, and no one is closer to us than we ourselves are. Egypt is part of us, and the Lebanese, be they Christians or Muslims, are part of this nation. We are of them and they are of us.

But the Iranian who rejects Zionism, is prepared to fight to regain Jerusalem, and is willing to come and defend south Lebanon, as some Iranian officials told me--when I compare him with the Cuban, for instance, I find him closer to me, because his culture is my culture and his civilization is my civilization. The Cuban, the Iranian and I meet on the need to fight Zionism, imperialism and dictatorship; but the Iranian and I are closer to each other on the cultural level than we are to the Cuban.

Question: Did you say that the Iranians were willing to come to the south and fight there?

Answer: If the Lebanese legal authorities give their approval, I believe we can offer a great deal on the subject. Iran is willing and able to give a great deal if the legal authorities accept.

Question: At the Baghdad meeting, Abu 'Ammar called, for a boycott of the United States, which he referred to as "the head of the snake." Earlier, he said he would "chop off the hands" that signed the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Does the Palestinian revolution really mean to attack American interests in this region? How can this be done as long as the Arab countries, including the members of the steadfastness front, continue to deal with the U.S. on the economic, political, and cultural levels?

Answer: When our brother Abu 'Ammar says something, you can be sure that he means what he says. Anyone who studies the history of the Palestinian revolution and the PLO will find out that Fatah leaders mean exactly what they say.

In his speech, Abu 'Ammar underscored the gravity of the situation, placed his finger on the wound and diagnosed the illness accurately.

It is America that has launched a battle against the Palestinians. There's no such thing as an "As-Sadat position." As-Sadat becomes intransigent when Carter tells him to be intransigent, and he turns flexible when Carter tells him to be flexible.

The Americans must realize that if they maintain their rejection of the existence of the Palestinian people and the need for a Palestinian state, and if they continue to cling to their adoption of Zionism and Israel, the struggle against them is inevitable.

The Americans have proved that they are irrational. They still prefer Israel to the Arabs. So why shouldn't Abu 'Ammar determine to confront them and hit their interests?

The Palestinian revolution does not run away from a challenge, if it did, it wouldn't be a revolution. Carter has challenged us, and I believe that he and Begin will find out that the Palestinian revolution has reached a stage where it is capable of facing the United States of America.

As for the second part of your question, if the members of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front continue to deal with America and fail to open a military front against Israel, the Arabs will have failed to respond publicly to the Camp David challenge.

But as you know, the Palestinian revolution is the locomotive of the Arab revolution, and we will never shirk our responsibilities. We are the locomotive, and we pull the entire situation behind us.

Question: There have been threats made by the Palestinians against the Arab oil fields. Would action in that direction be considered part of the anti-American drive?

Answer: Attacking American interests does not mean blowing up an oil well in Kuwait or Saudi Arabia. We don't want to hit Arab property, but what the Americans own.

In the past, for instance, Trieste oil was hit. That was an American interest. Remember the years 1971-1972, and the organization that was then known as Black September? In this connection, we must mention our brother Abu Hasan, the martyred hero who played a role in this matter.

An oil well in Kuwait--that is ours. But American interests are many, and we know them well. In 1971, for instance, a computer plant was hit in Hamburg. That was part of America's interests.

In addition, attacks against those who cooperate with America are attacks on American interests.

At any rate, the days ahead--and they will be days of hellfire and brimstone, very difficult days--will show what we mean. God willing, the Palestinian revolution will prove that it can stand up to the challenge.

Question: Several Arab countries are worried about the Iranian developments and the new regime in that country. Has the Palestinian revolution been trying to allay those fears?

Answer: Fear of the Iranian revolution is, of course, unjustified. I cannot understand any rational man being unafraid of the shah and afraid of the Khomeyni revolution. The shah of Iran was the enemy of the Arabs. He was the man to be worried about.

King Hassan (of Morocco) is worried about the Iranian revolution because he accepted the shah in his country. It is natural, in view of this, that the Iranians should work against King Hassan. It is for this reason that Khomeyni recently received the leader of the Moroccan opposition, Mohammed al-Bahri, in Iran. After that meeting, Morocco asked us to help regulate Moroccan-Iranian relations, and it informed us that it was ready to abide by the resolutions adopted by the current Arab meeting in Baghdad, even a boycott of Egypt.

If King Hassan is prepared to hand the shah over to the PLO, which would deliver him to Iran, I believe that he can allay his fears on this score.

Egypt is afraid of the Iranian revolution because As-Sadat has betrayed Arabism and religious values, and he is therefore a traitor in the eyes of all Arabs and anyone who has religious values.

But other countries, like Syria and Algeria, are not afraid of the Iranian regime. At any rate, we have started a wide-ranging campaign of contacts with the Arab countries and Iran. Abu Dhabi has already sent an ambassador, and there are now very good relations between the two countries. Qatar will follow soon, and so will Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Our mission is to leave no room for Arab-Iranian conflict, because the days of Arab-Iranian conflict went with the shah, who believed in Persian domination of the Arabs. The Iranian revolution does not believe in Iranian domination of the Arabs, but in Iranian obligations to the Arab. Arab-Iranian conflict is what Zionism and the enemies of Iran and the Arabs want, and the Palestinian revolution will do a great deal to see to it that such a conflict does not develop.

I believe we have succeeded in a number of instances already. For example, an Algerian delegation is now visiting Iran, a Libyan delegation will follow, and so will delegations from Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Bahrain...

Question: Many are saying that Saudi Arabia is particularly worried about the Iranian regime. Do you agree with those who have said that Crown Prince Fahd went to Spain because he feels he is becoming weak in the government?

Answer: I don't think that has anything to do with the Iranian situation.

However, there is no doubt that the change in Iran means that a new political map is beginning to be drawn in the region.

At one time, American imperialism had three mainstays, other than Israel, in the Middle East. These were Turkey, Iran and Ethiopia. Now, Ethiopia has changed, Iran has changed and Turkey is on its way.

A new map is being drawn, and every regime has to reconsider its calculations on the basis of the approaching change: Will its country remain unchanged within the new map? Will it expand? Will it be partitioned? That is what geopolitics is all about.

However, I believe the fear that Iran has inspired (in the Arab world) is beginning to disappear. With the wisdom of the Iranian leaders and through the PLO, we must work to draw a new unified political map which would stand against Israel, and not lead to internal conflict.

I personally believe that Saudi Arabia is now less worried than it used to be.

Question: Were you surprised by Iran's decision to continue to sell oil to the U.S., or were you expecting it?

Answer: Of course we were not surprised. Iran must, in the end, sell its oil, which represents 70 percent of its national income. But Iran sold its oil for the price which it itself chose. OPEC met to make the Iranian price the international price. Iran refused to deal with the oil monopolies, and all the profits are now going to the government. The notion of commission has fallen. The elimination of the companies that used to buy the oil meant the elimination of a political force inside the country. This political force which was represented by the companies used to pay Empress Farah Diba one million dollars per month, for instance. This was recently found out in Tehran. Farah Diba alone used to cash one million dollars monthly from the oil companies. And then, of course, there are other payments to the shah and others.

The important thing, then, is to ask: Was it Iran that submitted to the Americans in the matter of oil purchases, or did the Americans submit to Iran? The Americans, of course, were the ones who gave in.

We hope the Arab countries will follow Iran's example and start selling oil directly to the various governments, imposing their own terms.

Question: In a speech in Tehran recently, you said: "Iran today, Turkey tomorrow, and Palestine the day after tomorrow." Would you elaborate on that? Could you tell us something about the PLO's current relations with Turkey?

Answer: A few years ago, an Islamic summit held in Istanbul adopted a resolution calling for recognition of the PLO and the opening of PLO offices in all Islamic countries.

So far, Turkey has refused to permit the PLO to open an office. Negotiations are going on between us, and Ecevit is trying to impose certain conditions on the PLO.

In addition, the Islamic countries adopted resolutions against Zionism, one being that it is unacceptable for any Islamic state to have diplomatic relations with Israel. Turkey has such relations.

For these reasons, we cannot consider that Turkey has abided by the Islamic resolutions. And as far as we're concerned, what matters is not whether the Turkish leaders go to prayers, but whether Turkey abides by the Islamic summit resolutions or not; whether the Turks evict the Israelis from their country or not.

Judging by my observation of Iranian developments, I believe that many internal forces in Turkey have matured, and the struggle against Zionism will be one of the major guidelines of the transformation operation in Turkey.

We are not with the Turkish Government. However, we know that the Turkish people are, in the final analysis, against Israel and imperialism. We hope they will work to drive the Israeli ambassador out of their country and open a PLO office there.

If this does not happen soon, the Turkish Government will find out how much the dealy will cost it.

We hope the shah's example will be heeded. As I recall, when King Khalid asked the shah to apply the Islamic summit resolutions and open a PLO office in Tehran, the shah said: "I will never recognize them and I never want to hear about them again." In the end, the shah was thrown into the garbage can of history. He is roaming around the world not knowing where to sleep.

If the Turkish Government does not take this into consideration, it will, without doubt, pay a high price to the Turkish people, whom the PLO supports in their struggle against Zionism, imperialism and dictatorial domination.

One thing to keep in mind is that the Ecevit government is unable to take this decision because the textile industry in Turkey is largely under Israeli domination, so that a decision against the Israeli Embassy would be a decision against the economic forces of the Zionist movement in Turkey, which is imposing its presence. However, if Ecevit and others wish to abide by the Islamic summit resolutions, the PLO can discuss the possibility of securing the necessary support for the Turkish textile industry which is now under Israeli control, and we can overcome this problem.

Otherwise, as long as we see Israeli economic forces dominating the Turkish Government, why shouldn't we say, "Iran today and Turkey tomorrow."

Question: You have lived through the development of Chinese-Palestinian relations since the sixties. How would you evaluate current Chinese-Palestinian relations after the rise of Deng Xiaoping and Chinese-American rapprochement?

Answer: There is no doubt that an American-Chinese rapprochement has occurred, and we know that whenever America establishes relations with any country, the Israeli lobby plays a role in those relations--because, as everyone knows, the Israeli lobby is a major part of America's political life.

The PLO must therefore be on its guard against the role of the Israeli lobby, which will now start using American-Chinese relations to exert pressure on China. The Palestinians must remember that we cannot allow ourselves to lose the one billion people of China; we must not lose the Chinese Government, which has supported the Palestinian revolution since its inception.

We truly regret the relations between China and the As-Sadat regime. Chinese-American relations are natural, but for Chinese to support the Camp David agreements--that is a danger that we must prepare to face. We must find a way to persuade China to return to its firm position in favor of the Palestinian cause. I don't think it's too late. Something can still be done. Our loss of China would be a gain for Israel, and Israel must not gain that densely populated land which is bound to become an important element in international politics in the next stage.

I have had over 10 years of experience in Chinese-Palestinian relations. I knew Deng before he was swept aside by the Cultural Revolution; and I held talks with him more than once after he returned to power. I know most of the Chinese leaders who are now in power. They are now acting impulsively on Middle Eastern affairs, guided by mistaken conceptions. Chinese policy on Iran went astray, influenced by totally false analyses of the situation there, and now the same thing is happening to Chinese policy on the Middle East.

We must exercise maximum restraint and determine to bring China back to support of Arab popular causes and the Palestinian revolution. When the time comes and a decision is taken to do so, I will be happy to take on this mission.

Question: Your visit to the United States during the Camp David talks was surrounded with a great deal of secrecy. Now that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has been signed, can you tell us something about your impressions of the American administration, and about Carter's offer to start a dialogue with the PLO if it recognizes Security Council Resolution 242?

Answer: My major object in going to the U.S., where I stayed several weeks, was to hold talks about Palestine Day at the UN and to give lectures to the Arab students organization and the Palestinian community in the U.S. It was a coincidence that the Camp David talks occurred while I was there.

I can summarize my impressions of the American administration as follows:

In the U.S., unfortunately, in every presidential election year, many peoples have to pay the price of the aspiring president's votes.

In 1948, several American officials warned President Truman that the rise of Israel in that manner would threaten American interests in the Middle East. One of those who told Truman this was the then secretary of defense, who later committed suicide precisely because of the American position on this matter. Truman's answer was: "Where are the Arab votes?" That year was an election year.

Look at 1956 and 1967. You will find that Israel always takes what it wants from the Arabs during an American election year.

The same thing happened this time. Begin kept delaying until the election year came and he was able to snatch the frightening concessions he got from As-Sadat through the American administration.

But one learns in politics that there is a lot of difference between having a right to something and deserving it. Having a right doesn't mean anything. One must prove that he deserves it. I believe the Palestinian people have proved this.

After a long struggle, they managed to teach the American administration to delete the word "refugees" and replace it with "the Palestinian people."

After the signing of the Egyptian-Israel treaty, Carter knew that no more progress could be made without the approval of the Palestinians. So he immediately offered a new concession to the PLO. He did so by taking note of the PLO, which he once equated with the Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan. The struggle of the PLO and the Palestinian people and the upheavals in the West Bank and Gaza made Carter realize he must speak with respect about the PLO.

For the first time, the administration tried to bargain with the PLO. Carter said he was ready to recognize the PLO if the PLO recognized Resolution 242, even if it did so with reservations. That, of course, was not a gift from Carter; it is something that the Palestinians forced him to give.

Carter must now realize that he must recognize the PLO unconditionally, because we will never recognize Resolution 242, which we have nothing to do with. When Resolution 242 was drafted, the people who drafted it did not recognize the Palestinian people as a major element. Today, no one can overlook the Palestinian people. Carter would do well to realize that if he does not recognize the PLO now, he will recognize it later.

We hope that next year, when Carter is no longer subject to Israeli blackmail, he will act according to his interests and recognize the PLO unconditionally.

I might add that Carter is trying to persuade the PLO to start a dialogue with the U.S. without Soviet presence. That is something the Americans will never be able to do. We know the balance of power in the world. No discussion of the Palestinian cause will take place outside the context of the international balance of power, for only that would provide the required guarantees. The Americans are trying to lure the Palestinians away from their allies, to facilitate anti-Palestinian action at a later stage. They will never be able to do that. We will not be like a turtle that has lost its shell and is vulnerable to blows from any direction.

At any rate, Carter and Begin learned a year ago to talk about "the Palestinian people." Now they say they won't recognize the PLO unless the approaching struggle will teach them to drop the "unless." The Palestinian state has become an existing fact. It will become a reality. The countdown for the disappearance of Zionism from Israel has started. That too is a fact. Another fact: America will never again be able to dominate this region as it has done in the past.

Question: What reactions are the PLO expecting from the Soviet Union to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty--other than verbal condemnations and Gromyko's visit to Damascus?

Answer: I personally believe that we should start by depending on ourselves for reactions to the treaty. As the Arabic proverb says, nothing scratches your skin like your own fingernails. We are capable of starting a battle front with Israel in the north and the east.

Why can't the seven million in Syria, the three million in Lebanon, the two million east of the Jordan and the 10 million in Iraq stand up to Israel? We have the power and capability to confront Israel. In south Lebanon, we saw how a few people, using sound tactics, could face up to Israel for eight days.

If we ourselves don't offer anything, I don't believe we should expect anyone else to do so. We in the Arab world must recognize that this stage is a dangerous one, but it has as many potential victories as it has potential dangers. If we sacrifice during this stage, depending on ourselves, we will gain the support of many forces, and we will be able to develop our victory further.

Question: Does this mean you don't expect any aid from the Soviet Union at this stage?

Answer: If we don't do anything, I don't see how the Soviet Union can do anything. What can the Soviet Union do if we don't create a battle front, if we don't take it upon ourselves to confront Zionism in our region?

Question: Would the Soviet Union be in favor of war?

Answer: In politics, I hate speculation; I like to deal with tangibles. That is why I would like to see us move toward war and then find out what others' positions will be. Speculation can lead to false conclusions. Since the age of inspiration is over in this region, and since we are now living in the age of tangibles, I believe we should move. If we move, the gravity of the situation in the region would make it impossible for anyone to abandon us.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS EXPANDED MEETING

JN060732 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 6 Apr 79 JN

[Text] The Central Committee of the Palestinian National Liberation Front--Fatah held an expanded meeting last night attended by Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. The committee devoted a large part of the 6-hour meeting to a discussion of the political situation in the area and developments which have taken place since its last meeting.

The Central Committee examined the capitulatory treaty which As-Sadat signed in Washington on 26 March with terrorist Menahem Begin. It analyzed the results of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference in Baghdad and assessed its resolutions.

The committee also studied the Arab and international stands in the wake of the capitulatory treaty and the Baghdad conference.

Referring to the isolation of the Carter-Begin-As-Sadat alliance on the international level, the Fatah Central Committee noted that the treaty was received with strong reservations among circles revolving in the U.S. orbit.

At its meeting, the committee praised the stands of countries which rejected the treaty and those which voiced basic reservations about this treaty.

The Fatah Central Committee drew up a comprehensive plan of action to confront the practical implementation of the capitulatory treaty, As-Sadat's determination to hold negotiations with the Zionist enemy on our Palestinian people's issue, and his complete support for the Zionist enemy in striking at our people's unity and the unity of their representation and leadership.

Within the framework of this plan of action, the Fatah Central Committee decided the following:

To salute our Palestinian masses which are continuing their upheaval against the Zionist occupation in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Galilee and the Triangle.

The Central Committee proclaims that traitor As-Sadat is not authorized to discuss the Palestinian issue. Thus, what As-Sadat has signed in the capitulatory treaty on the West Bank and the strip and the so-called self-rule is blatant treason against our people and their hopes and aspirations for liberation, return and national independence.

The Fatah Central Committee will strike with force against As-Sadat's attempts to impose self-rule. The committee has taken important decisions to thwart and wreck these attempts. It is confident that our people will continue to rally around their revolution and will continue their revolutionary upheaval to defeat all conspirators and agents.

VOP RESPONDS TO AS-SADAT'S COMMENTS ON PALESTINIANS

JN052013 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 1810 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] Brothers, today the defeatist Anwar as-Sadat addressed the so-called Egyptian People's Assembly. He used a number of despicable, disgraceful and immoral words to attack Palestine, the Palestinians and the entire Arab nation. At the same time, he heaped compliments and praises on the imperialists and Zionists, who poured aid and supplies on him that will save Egypt from this shaky status. He forgot that Egypt has reached this status because of his frivolous scheme and initiatives.

We do not want to spar with the defeatist As-Sadat, who thought that in U.S. imperialism and Zionism he found a solution for his problems and complexes. We only want to ask As-Sadat, who talked at length today before the Egyptian People's Assembly about the Palestinian people, their rights and their cause, why he disavowed and ignored the Palestinian people and their rights when he was in Washington to sign the document of capitulation? Why did he remain silent in Washington? Why didn't he say a word or find a phrase to discuss the Palestinian people and their rights? Why did he remain silent in Washington?

Even in Cairo As-Sadat ignored the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause during his talks with his overlord Carter. There was no place for the Palestinian people's rights during the Carter-As-Sadat talks in Cairo. As-Sadat is using the Palestinian people as a means of stimulating the Egyptian people's feelings.

Most of all, who has ever asked As-Sadat to speak in the name of the Palestinian people inside the occupied land and abroad? As-Sadat is asking the Arabs not to interfere in his own matters and in his country's domestic affairs, meanwhile, he took upon himself the right to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people, and, moreover, he appointed himself a trustee for this revolutionary people.

Today As-Sadat said that Egypt's dignity does not permit him to accept Arab aid or whatever the Arabs want to give fraternal Egypt. However, As-Sadat announced that Egypt's dignity and the Egyptian people will accept with great appreciation and pride any support from the imperialist and Zionist circles. It seems that the U.S. dollar will preserve Egypt's dignity, while the Arab money will deprive Egypt of its dignity and pride.

This is really funny but it is not a surprising action from such a shaky and defeatist person, who sold the Arab land and ignored the Arabs' violated honor. He relinquished all the people's rights and all the holy places. He allowed himself to become an obedient tool in the hands of imperialism and Zionism. He agreed to be a puppet and to carry out his planned role anytime and anywhere his overlords decide.

In light of his serious, unstable state of mind and in light of the deteriorating domestic affairs, As-Sadat today employed all the hollow words and phrases to help him look, before his people, as if he is still in a very strong position where he can do whatever he wants. He wanted to convince his people that he is the only one who can save them from their painful situation.

The great Arab people in fraternal Egypt, who have frequently defeated all the agents and hirelings who tried to humiliate and suppress the Egyptian people, will not be misled by As-Sadat's hollow words. These people will be able to end As-Sadat's capitulatory regime, which is linked to imperialism and Zionism.

KUWAIT

6 APR PRESS COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT SPEECH

LD061116 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Two local papers today denounced the speech delivered yesterday by President Anwar as-Sadat in the People's Assembly. AL-QABAS says President as-Sadat has failed to provide a reply as to what policy he will follow to prevent any harm being suffered by Egypt and how to confront Arab and perhaps Islamic ostracism of Egypt. Under the heading "The River Nile," AL-QABAS says that As-Sadat ignored these questions because he had no reply and remained silent, in spite of the fact that his speech was rather long, because the tremendous problem is far too big for him. It is a problem not with the Arabs but with the Egyptian people themselves.

The paper says that As-Sadat's real problem with the people of Egypt is that his fancies do not correspond with reality. It added that he continued to believe right to the last moment that after signing the peace treaty with Israel, the United States would flood Egypt with dollars and West Germany would inundate him with marks. The paper concludes by saying that none of this has happened and that is why President as-Sadat is unable to find an answer to Egypt's problems, except perhaps by presenting the Nile as a gift to the people of Egypt as a solution to these problems.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM says that those who listened to the Egyptian president defending his capitulatory course must have realized that the common features he has with Hitler are paranoia and arrogance and that he has abandoned the most elementary principles and standards of patriotic and national action. Under the heading "He Rejects Sovereignty Over Jerusalem but Accepts It Over Egypt," the paper says that the champion of the treaty is now trying on behalf of world Zionism to spread the shadow of the treaty over the Arab regions as if he is our supreme master. The paper says that As-Sadat's peace does not differ in its intellectual, ethical and political stands from that of Hitler, Goebbels and their companions in the Nazi establishment. The paper added that if President as-Sadat had as much patriotism as his friend Begin the treaty would not have emerged in its present form and he would not have blundered into leveling invectives against those who gave him succour in difficult times while lavishing praise on his friend Begin, who suddenly was transformed from a diehard terrorist into a warm friend.

The paper concludes by saying that President as-Sadat stressed Egypt's rejection of Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem. But what is Egypt's attitude toward Begin's call to American Jewish investors to invest their money in Egypt? The paper says: This alone is regarded as Israeli sovereignty over Egypt.

UAE

OFFICIAL ON BOYCOTT OF ARAB FIRMS DEALING WITH ISRAEL

JN050940 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 April--UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah has affirmed that sanctions will be imposed on the Arab states which did not attend the meetings of Arab foreign and economy ministers held in Baghdad recently if these states deal with Egyptian firms or companies which set up relations with Zionist firms and companies.

'Abdallah was referring to Sudan and Oman which did not attend the meetings of Arab foreign and economy ministers held following the signing of the humiliating peace treaty.

In a press statement he said that the resolutions of Arab foreign and economy ministers are mandatory and derive their strength from the Baghdad summit conference, especially with regard to the severance of diplomatic relations with the Egyptian regime. He said that any joint Abu Dhabi-Egyptian company will be abolished if such companies have relations with the Zionist enemy.

He said that the "Emirates-Egypt" investment company will expel from its membership any Egyptian firm, company or bank dealing with the enemy. The company will be abolished if any of the Egyptian firms that are shareholders in the company deal with the Zionist enemy.

YEMEN--PDRY

PDRY LEADERS MEET WITH YAR PRESIDENT'S ENVOY

LD051706 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD/EA

[Text] Brothers 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister, have received brother Yahya Jaghman, a personal envoy from brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of the homeland.

Brother Yahya Jaghman was carrying a personal message from brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the results of the Kuwait meeting and on the ways that the unity committees might be activated to accomplish their tasks on the road of achieving Yemeni unity.

The brother secretary general expressed his satisfaction with the results of his meeting in Kuwait with brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. He praised the joint efforts being made by the two parts to implement the results of the Kuwait meeting. He also stressed that it was important for the unity committee to continue their work in a spirit of optimism so that they complete their tasks as soon as possible as a step on the road of achieving Yemeni unity.

Brother Yahya Jaghman arrived in Aden this morning. He was received at the airport by brother Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT RECEIVES YAR-PDRY SUPERVISION COMMITTEE

JN051854 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received in his office at the armed forces general headquarters this morning Maj Gen Ibrahim Yunis, chairman of the Arab military joint committee, and the heads of the military delegations.

President Salih decorated Maj Gen Ibrahim Yunis with the Ma'rib Medal of the Second Order and the leaders of the military delegations with the Ma'rib Medal of the Third Order.

This was in appreciation of their efforts to end the dispute and bloodshed between the two parts of Yemen, which shows the desire of the Arab states to solve Arab differences in an atmosphere of brotherhood.

The president thanked them for their successful efforts. He said that the YAR is concerned with preventing bloodshed in Yemen. The president said: We are also concerned with ending the dispute and with the return of normal relations so as to concentrate our efforts to serve our country and people and to contribute to the liberation of the occupied Arab territories from the usurped colonialists.

The president said that the YAR will always remain concerned with the stability of the region and will not allow any foreign forces to interfere in Yemen's internal affairs or to transform Yemen into an arena of international struggle. We are sincerely and firmly confident [words indistinct] to liberate the occupied Arab territories from the usurpers and to restore the rights of the Palestinian people.

Maj Gen Ibrahim Yunis thanked the president on behalf of the members of the Arab military committee for his understanding and appreciation of the work carried out by the committee and his sincere desire to stop Yemeni bloodshed, solve the Yemeni problem and realize the hopes of the Yemeni people for progress, freedom and unity. The committee expressed appreciation for the President's constructive and positive steps to build a happy Yemen, an Arab, Muslim and united Yemen.

PRESIDENT CHAIRS MEETING OF ARMY OFFICERS, STAFF

JN052017 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpts] The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces today chaired a meeting of army commanders, officers of various units and brigades and their staff. The meeting was attended by the chief of staff and his deputies.

During the meeting, the president reviewed the results of the Yemeni summit conference which was held in Kuwait 28-30 March with the participation of His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, who worked for the success of the summit. The president affirmed his desire and that of the YAR Government that understanding and dialog replace fighting and dispute. This will serve the causes of the people of Yemen and achieve their aspirations for glory and unity within a unified Arab and Muslim Yemen based on genuine Arab tradition. He expressed his thanks and that of the YAR Government and people for the Arab brothers who took part in solving the Yemeni problem and praised their sincere and brotherly stands.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES SPECIAL SESSION OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

NC051140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0953 GMT 5 Apr 79 NC

[Text of speech by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat to the People's Assembly--live]

[Text] In the name of God. Brothers and sisters: in these dear and unique days in the life of millions on our land, on every land, in every spot and every place; in these immortal days in the life of our generation and for the sake of the happiness of future generations; in these days and in the name of Egypt, which is my mother, father and destiny; [applause] in the name of the sacred soil; in the name of every martyr and every newborn; in the name of all mothers and fathers who have spared no sacrifice for the sake of Egypt; in the name of the Egyptian woman in the villages, towns and hamlets who has sacrificed either a husband, brother or son--which is the noblest sacrifice; in the name of honorable and simple people; in the name of pure and clean ideals--we express thanks and gratitude to God Almighty for guiding us along the path of love and peace. Could we have found guidance, had it not been for the guidance of God? [Koran verse] [applause]

Throughout the ages and generations lofty Egypt has never hesitated to let its sons wage bloody wars of liberation while being protected by a proud, courageous and cohesive people--men and women alike--so that the good earth would be purified from the aggressors, the greedy and the imperialists--so much so that history has ruled that Egypt is the graveyard of the invaders.

History also testifies that we have not waged a war or sent our heroic youths to the battles of martyrdom and sacrifice except in defense of the honor of this homeland.

We are a nation that has given the peoples of the entire world the first rays of thought and the first lights of knowledge. We are a nation that for 7,000 years has established man's rights to be ruled with justice and that the ruler should respect man's humanity.

We are a nation that gave mankind its first civilization at a time when only the law of the jungle prevailed. Having such a heritage, it is not strange that this nation should discard war that is fought just for the sake of war.

We are a nation that Almighty God elected to discover for itself--with divine inspiration--the essense of faith, monotheism and the virtues of religions before he chose his messenger and prophets to guide his creatures.

Egypt has been the land of divine guidance and the light of messages. Therefore, it is not strange for Egypt to honor mankind--God's noblest creature--and to protect it from bloodshed and prevent it from living a life of hatred and malice.

Brothers and sisters. We are now on the threshold of a new era in the present and future of the Arab nation, from one end of it to the other.

On previous occasions, I spoke to you frankly about what has happened.

I would like you to know that there are many disgraceful acts that I saw fit to keep hidden--not out of concern for leadership that sought to stab the Arab nation's cause in the heart, but to preserve the reputation of the Arab values before the people of the world. [applause]

As we are now reaping peace as one of the fruits of the sacrifices of the dearest and most precious sons in the armed forces--those who were martyred, who have been incapacitated or who have been destined to live the most important and daring storming act known in military history--I would like you, brothers and sisters, to observe a minute of silence in tribute to the souls of our heroic martyrs. [1 minute of silence is observed]

Brothers and sisters. We are meeting today to (?act upon) our constitution; we are meeting today so that I may put before you the realities of the entire situation, particularly after I have received the correspondence of all those who wished to write about the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the agreement on a comprehensive solution, represented in the letter exchanged between Egypt and Israel, which has the same strength as the treaty. You remember that we held back for 6 months until we got to the point where the work we started for the establishment of peace became a basis for a comprehensive solution. We held back on the signing for more than 6 months until we achieved the linkage between the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the future of the West Bank and Gaza. This treaty is the cornerstone of a comprehensive settlement, as I will explain to you.

As you heard me ask our people whenever I visited them or met with them--inside Egypt or with our sons abroad--I want our discussion to be at the national level. In other words, our discussion of Egypt's and the Arab nation's supreme objectives--which are inseparable from each other--must be done with national and moral commitment, in that we must in no way allow altercations, deviations, grudges, abuse or methods used before the 23 July Revolution to find their way into our discussions in this honorable hall of the representatives of the people of Egypt. [applause] Let us leave this to the new Baghdad pact, the pact of abuse and name-calling.

Today the treaty will be submitted to you. I will speak to you about the circumstances that surrounded the signing of this treaty, which has two parts: The first part, which is the agreement between Egypt and Israel, represents the cornerstone for a comprehensive settlement; the second part represents the beginning of paving the way toward a solution of the Palestinian question. The Palestine question, as I have said and over and over again, is the crux and heart of the conflict, and without settling it, the comprehensive peace we are seeking will not be achieved.

Here I do not want you to fall in the same pitfalls as the Arab brothers. After Camp David, and before all the provisions had been made public yet, they issued statements. They did not even wait to read the provisions and arrange their stands accordingly. We fear nothing and we have nothing whatsoever to hide. All we wanted them to do was to read the provisions and then voice their opinion as they like. But they did not read it. Statements were issued and emotionalism and fever began to rise. If they had read Camp David, they would not have accused Egypt regarding the comprehensive solution it achieved because the agreement did not mention Jerusalem and did not provide for the immediate handover of the occupied territories or for all that they had demanded before. They opposed it before reading it. If they had read Camp David, they would have found that the title said it was a framework.

Camp David is not a treaty and is not an initial or a final solution. It is a "frame-work," as has been called in English. The first document lays down the bases for a comprehensive solution for the first time in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The second document lays down the bases of an agreement between Egypt and Israel as a cornerstone for a full and comprehensive solution.

I do not want you to fumble the same way the Arabs fumbled, whether deliberately, out of spite, out of ignorance or out of a combination of these three.

The second thing is that this agreement--which I am presenting to your august assembly today for you to debate in accordance with the constitution and to make your decision and express your opinion about--is in two parts--the part that concerns Egypt and Israel, and another part, which concerns the linkage for solving the Palestinian problem--and it is not the end of the road. We have ahead of us a phase to push the peace process forward, guided by what we have signed. This means that it is very wrong to begin the discussions on the assumption that this treaty has solved all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. I have not said this, but the second Baghdad conference--the conference of abuse and name-calling--claimed that this is the cause. This is definitely not the final settlement. A proof of this, for example, is the problem of Jerusalem, which I call 'Uthman's shirt, which they are using as an excuse to attack Egypt.

Egypt has declared its view frankly, and did so at the Israeli Knesset. I can read to you what we said about Jerusalem at the Knesset. This is the text of the phrases I used in my speech at the Israeli Knesset which, of course, were recorded on television, radio and by the entire world. I told the Israelis in their country and to their faces: It is meaningless to talk about durable peace as long as you occupy Arab territory with armed force. No peace can last or be built on the occupation of others' lands. I also said: As for the Palestinian issue, no one denies that it is the crux of the entire problem--I said this before the Knesset. The cause and the rights of the people of Palestine can no longer be ignored or denied by anyone; no thinking mind can tolerate subjecting these to disregard or denial. I continued by saying: The direct way to tackle the Palestinian problem and the only language to remedy this problem on the road to a lasting and just peace is by establishing a Palestinian state.

This has been Egypt's position for more than 16 months. It has been historically proven. Concerning Jerusalem, I recorded an interview in Washington for Israeli television; the Israelis heard it; the Arabs in the occupied territory heard it; King Husayn of Jordan heard it; Syria heard and saw it on television.

In that interview, I said--and I quote--the Arabs and Muslims have historic rights in Jerusalem, which nobody can ignore; 700 million Muslims and Arabs reject Israeli sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. [applause]

The Arabs use Jerusalem as an excuse. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem. We have agreed that Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank, and the Camp David agreement stipulated that 1 month after the signing of the treaty and the linkage document on a comprehensive solution, we will sit down to discuss full autonomy. Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank. This is Egypt's position.

However, those who are trying to accuse Egypt do not hesitate to speak about Jerusalem from time to time to mislead the Arab nation.

I spoke to Israel, to the Palestinian people under occupation and to everyone who saw the interview with Israeli television, which was broadcast throughout the world--I spoke and said that we reject Israeli sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. [applause] I think this clearly exposes the accusations that are prompted by grudges and that emanate from lowly, sick minds. It also shows how Egypt speaks with the language of reason and with a language that is respected by the entire world, foremost of which the Israeli people themselves, because we have addressed them without abuse and with a call for justice. Egypt's position on Jerusalem is: We reject Israel's sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem.

Concerning Arab solidarity, how many crimes are committed daily and in broad daylight in the name of Arab solidarity?

As I told you, so that our discussion may start on a sound basis, I must explain that what I am submitting to you now in accordance with our constitution and democracy is not an end-of-the-road agreement but the beginning of the process of peace.

I repeat again that I hope that your discussions--you, who are the people's representatives--will express a commitment to Egypt, which is above everyone, above all parties, above all vituperations, above all those who believe they have extraordinary capabilities; Egypt is above everything.

When we sit here, I want you to set an example. This is because we are on the threshold of a new stage. As I told you, the blood of our martyr sons, whom we saluted today and without whose work we would not have achieved what we have, must not result in an immoral commitment from anyone in Egypt when the question is that of Egypt's objectives.

I want them to take the example from here, from us. Egypt's ethics are the ethics of prayers, faith, solidarity, love instead of hatred, strength, good, beauty. These are simply the ethics of Egypt; everything else is alien to us.

As you have heard me say that ethics are indivisible. The best ethical behavior is that we should forget our emotions and ambitions when we come to discuss Egypt's sublime aims. [applause] As I have said, we must discuss things in a family spirit and not in a spirit of abuses and division. To act unethically is the easiest thing. The most difficult thing is for a dissolute person to abide by ethics. It is imperative that an example must be set here, in this place, for the new phase of behavior that is based on ethics. Thereupon, the opposition will be for Egypt and not for excitement, rancor and things that fill the hearts with hatred. No. Opposition should take its course.

During the coming phase--as I am going to tell you now and as you heard me say when I met with the doctors before I left Egypt for Camp David that as soon as I return--and after you have made your decision on this treaty--I must inevitably bring the 15 May Revolution to completion. [applause] Regarding the 15 May Revolution, we must first of all know and map the landmarks. There is the 23 July Revolution, which achieved Egypt's will for the first time and liberated it from foreign or colonial influence and from foreign rulers--the family that ruled Egypt. It also liberated Egypt from the political corruption that existed before 23 July. No person denies that the 23 July Revolution accomplished all this. Mistakes occurred afterward, but they were corrected by the 15 May Revolution.

Today, as I tell you that the 15 May Revolution must be completed, I mean that democracy must be completed and made to flourish.

[applause] I mean that after a full popular debate you will issue, by your own free will, a declaration about the rights of the Egyptian people. At the same time, you should set out the controls. In talking about the controls, I do not speak of extraordinary measures. Never.

In every democracy and even in England, the mother of democracy, there is complete democracy and complete controls.

This is what I mean. I will not borrow democratic controls from the popular democracies, where they have many such terms as liquidationist and defeatist--which are only words. Why? It is because we will be starting a new life with what I am submitting to you now. We will start a new life under which we are the masters of our fate and will, and our land has been liberated. When the great nations reach this stage, their sons sit together and agree on the system of life they want for themselves by their own will and in light of the people's sufferings and experiences. This is what I mean by completing the 15 May Revolution.

Some believed that democracy means persistence in presenting matters in a way that would call on them to exploit whatever they want and make the people hear what they want. They believe that to be a leader, hero, parliamentarian, a person must exploit democracy, or rather exploit the people's sufferings. It is very easy to exploit the people's sufferings. We have been left with a difficult heritage. The people are suffering. It is very easy to exploit sufferings. It is very easy to stir hatred.

You will recall that they described the 18 and 19 January [1977] thieves' uprising as a national one. They said then: that person is wearing a suit; cut it to pieces. This is very easy to do. They said then: This person is riding in a car; destroy it. They used the mobs to tell the outside world that Egypt was unstable. What is strange is that some who have been permitted to assume a political status for the first time in Egypt are still calling it a popular uprising. Hatred, as their leader, Trotskiy, put it, is the most splendid tool of the class struggle. It is very easy to go to a person in the street and tell him to destroy somebody else's car because you do not have one.

We had a crisis of supplies then. They entered the supermarkets and looted them. Was this a solution? We had a communications crisis. They burned 40 buses. Was this a solution? They tried to burn Cairo. Is this a democracy and popular uprising? Some people exploited democracy during the previous stage. During the next stage, there will be more democracy. [applause] During the next stage, I will open the door for extensive debates and I will tell you now: no restrictions on the formation of parties. [applause] However, beware. Let no one imagine that democracy means fooling around with the aims of our people, or using it as a means for exploiting people's sufferings, or misleading them to attain selfish ends. Hence, I say, full democratic guarantees side by side with full liberty. [applause]

In the next phase, as I said, the commitment must be an ethical one above all: clean tongue, the ethics of a citizen within his family before and above everything else, before the parties, leadership, qualifications, opportunities, before everything one can think of. Egypt is first, above everything. There must be a complete ethical commitment.

I wanted to make these points, although I have taken a great deal of time, but whenever I meet with you I want to speak to you about everything that is on my mind, because the matter concerns our future and that of the generations to come. Those who do not benefit from experience or who do not learn daily from our suffering will never be fit to take over any of the affairs of this country because egoism, abuses, corruption can never be a way to our new full democracy, God willing.

Before presenting the treaty to you, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will present its provisions. He will also explain them to you in full and will debate them with you for as long as necessary. However, I will deal with some aspects, both historical and recent, so that we may relive the battle, particularly since some of the Arabs opted to enter a campaign with Egypt. Let us all be armed for this campaign. They are our brothers. We will arm ourselves with Egypt's weapons--faith, firmness, strength and elevation and by putting every person in his place. We will not answer swearing with swearing or silly things with silly things. Never. They have withdrawn the ambassadors; a thousand goodbys. This is no problem for us at all. Should the ambassadors return, they would be welcome. However, let this phase be characterized by clarity and frankness from the broadest gates.

After the 1967 defeat, some rejoiced at Egypt's misfortune. We had all lived through the period of the 1967 defeat. Two months before 'Abd an-Nasir died, he accepted Rogers' initiative, which called for Israeli withdrawal and for a 3-month cease-fire that was renewable. Before this, I must mention the question of the defeat, and the submission of the issue to the Security Council at the time. I must mention that in August 1967--2 months after the defeat, since the defeat was in June--a resolution was submitted to the Security Council calling for Israel's withdrawal. At the time we were 13 Arab states. I witnessed this event alongside 'Abd an-Nadir. The resolution was described at the time as the U.S.-Soviet resolution. When 'Abd an-Nasir noted the provision for Israel's withdrawal, he said: I agree.

While we were still sitting, a telephone conversation from New York indicated that 13 Arab states rejected the resolution. This is exactly the same pattern we note these days--emotion, abuses, shamelessness, insults against Egypt and a negative course of no, no. The resolution, which called for withdrawal, was rejected by 13 Arab states. 'Abd an-Nasir--God bless his soul--got angry in my presence, but he could not do a thing about the rejection by 13 Arab states. This occurred in August. In November 1967, the well-known Resolution 242 was proposed. Before that, 'Abd an-Nasir officially instructed our delegate at the United Nations to contact Arthur Goldberg, the chief U.S. delegate at the United Nations, to inform him that Egypt agreed to the August resolution, which was rejected by the Arabs, because it was better than 242 and called for withdrawal.

[Text] U.S. President Johnson was in conspiracy with Israel. We all know this. U.S. Chief Delegate to the United Nations Arthur Goldberg's official reply to our delegate was: This is a dead horse. This is a saying they use to mean that this is finished and done with.

This is why when 'Abd an-Nasir saw the word withdrawal in the Rogers plan, he approved it. So they [other Arabs] raised hell and, as you can hear now, were abusive and insolent, and so on. They attacked 'Abd an-Nasir and Egypt most vehemently.

They now lament Arab solidarity. How many crimes are being committed in the name of Arab solidarity!

Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir was unable to approve a resolution which he himself believed was more correct, because he wanted to be courteous to the Arabs, the 13 Arab states.

Well, how long will courtesy be maintained at the expense of the interests of the nation and the interests of our peoples? This is a question we must examine and answer, and we must be frank and state the facts for history to judge. Had we accepted the August resolution there would have been no problem of Israeli withdrawal, because it clearly provided for withdrawal. However, in the name of Arab solidarity, no, no was said and there was nervousness and talk about throwing Israel into the sea. This is what they said.

As I have said, when the Rogers initiative came, 'Abd an-Nasir accepted it and he was attacked in the ugliest manner by the Palestinians. Exactly like what is happening now, the Syrians incited the Palestinians to do this.

'Abd an-Nasir, may God bless his soul, died after we accepted the Rogers plan. The first (?truce) had not yet expired. When it expired we renewed it for another 90 days. At the end of the second 90 days it transpired that Israel had agreed to the word withdrawal mentioned in the initiative only because it was fully confident that 'Abd an-Nasir would not accept the Rogers initiative, but he did. So to torpedo it Israel claimed that Egypt moved its missiles to the front. It began maneuvering to completely cancel the effects of the initiative, because it included the word withdrawal.

As you know, I was entrusted with power in October 1970. After the second 90 days, on 4 February, I stood right here on this rostrum before the representatives of the people and announced my first initiative--that was on 4 February 1971. On that day I said for the first time since the beginning of the 22-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict--it was 22 years old on 1971; now it is 30 years--I stood up here on this platform and said that I was ready to conclude a peace agreement with Israel. At that time very many of my aides--the higher Executive Committee at the time consisted of the centers of power, and there were other close ministers--they all almost fainted. This is because I announced the initiative here, directly to the representatives of the people. The representatives of the people understood me, and the people at large understood me. The others, including all the centers of power who were the members of the Executive Committee, said all is lost. Even my foreign minister at the time said so. They said that all is lost and that we would not be able to do anything. It was a Thursday. On Thursday afternoon, having heard my speech, the people understood it and strongly supported it, so much so that on Saturday, the centers of power, members of the higher Executive Committee and the others who had opposed the initiative came to me one by one to say how wonderful this initiative was. In the Presidential Hall their nerves were (?tense). This is history, and we must know it. I am happy and always proud to be one of the people. The people's maturity and political consciousness are more splendid than any professional, degree holder, leader, or person with connections. The people are better than all of these. [applause]

In the period prior to my departure for Washington for the signing of the treaty the National Democratic Party parliamentary body met and the prime minister attended the meeting. The prime minister also convened the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs and National Security Committees to enlighten them. This is because, as you all know, according to the constitution the president of the republic signs the treaty and then presents it to the Assembly. The Assembly has the right to accept it or reject it.

The procedure which was followed was normal. It involved going to the popular bases and convening the Assembly's Foreign Affairs and National Security Committees. Then, when we signed the treaty, and although by God I had trips to make, I cancelled all of them in order to come and present it to you, exactly as the Constitution stipulates.

Therefore, there is no room for saying that all the facts of this treaty have not been presented to the people. Now is the time to present all the facts of the treaty. After signing the treaty the president presents it to the Assembly. If this was said because the NDP parliamentary body met and debated the treaty, this shows bad intentions. Why? Because the constitutional procedure is being followed as necessary. It is not true that this was done to isolate the other members. The opposition leader was invited to attend the Cabinet session before Dr Mustafa traveled to Washington. There is no need for incrimination. I say that in our coming democracy we must act with integrity and moral behavior, particularly in what the representatives of the people say. This is because they must serve as a good example.

Before I came to you I was confused. As I said, the pocket is full of serpents stories, as we say in the villages. [laughter] I was confused. Shall I begin with the start of our story with Israel in 1948? Shall I begin with 1967? Shall I begin with the start of my presidency? Shall I begin with the October War? I wanted to talk about all of this. I do not need to write it down, because I lived through these events. Something helped me. Comments were made by some Assembly members. I also received a paper. I would have preferred it to be sent to me directly rather than handed to foreign correspondents. Those who wrote it did not send it to me directly. It would have been more dignifying for them. They are four members of the old Revolution Council. It would have been more dignifying for them to send it to me. Before that, during the Camp David talks, they sent a petition to me. Sayyid Mar'i was then the speaker of the Assembly. I gave him the petition and told him to include it in the Assembly debate.

This was sent to the foreign correspondents. It does not matter much, but it would have been more dignifying to them personally if they had sent to me because I would have also sent it to the People's Assembly. Even though they did not sent it to me, I am going to leave it here and ask that it be included in the Assembly debate.

The second petition or the second analysis, as I said, was written by some members of the People's Assembly. I have read the two and found out that they would save me the trouble or relating the whole story. Why? Because it deals directly with the points in which they see there are loopholes.

What I am interested in saying is that despite what lies between the lines--and I absolutely do not like what lies between the lines; I like for us to be frank and clear at all times, because there is nothing for us to hide or to be ashamed of: So why not be frank? And why not commit ourselves to Egypt before anything else? [sentence left incomplete]

The petition of the Revolution Council members, I have discovered, does not add to the other petition, or rather the analysis made by some Assembly members. Definitely, there has been some coordination in this. The important thing is to mention the points which require clarification. This saved me the trouble of telling the story from beginning to end.

The petition first says that the full facts regarding our position and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty have not been submitted responsibly or accurately to the Egyptian people. Well, we are submitting them now. There was no need to submit them before.

The discussion held by the parliamentary body was a party activity. However, the Foreign Relations and National Security Committees also met and were addressed by the prime minister. However, it is now that the treaty must be submitted.

What I am submitting to you now, as has been my custom with you, is the treaty, all its documents, and even what I said in the United States, so that we will be working in the daylight in commencing our new democracy, with everyone knowing his limits. Naturally, there was nothing of this sort, as I have explained.

The petition also talks about a news blackout and secrecy plan to which the three parties to the treaty officially admitted they were adhering, with the aim of guaranteeing the success of the negotiations. The three parties, naturally, are Egypt, Israel and the United States.

You recall that Carter proposed two things when we went to Camp David. He surrounded Camp David with guards and said no news should leak out. He did this to prevent verbal battles. However, when we reached an agreement at Camp David, were any documents of the agreement concealed from the United States, Egypt or Israel? Not at all.

The insinuation of secrecy and secret agreements is both wrong and dishonorable because it is unfounded and unreasonable here. I have already told you several times that I respect my people and country and the representatives of the people. [applause]

Why do the people have confidence in me? Because I tell them all the facts. Never will the people or you find one day that I submitted something to you and kept other things secret. We said that such things ended on 23 July [1952]. Why do the people not want to believe that such things ended on 23 July? In our coming democracy, I will not tolerate this at all. I will not tolerate this because it is deliberate deception and confusion of minds.

Everything is submitted to you. You as a people's assembly can ask clearly: Is there a secret agreement? You will be told: No. What you approve will apply and what you reject will be rejected. If something was not submitted to you, it will not be passed. Suppose something was concealed from you, then this is a point, a point [applause] and thus [sentence left incomplete].

Listen with me. [As-Sadat reads from the petition] And thus the final outcome of all this is that the Egyptian decision on the most serious national issue was in fact adopted by the ruling forces in Egypt alone, with the participation of all the Israeli, American and European forces, in the absence of real participation by the Egyptian people and with a full media blockade of opposing opinion, which is expressed by the whole spectrum of opposition forces.

I will take this sentence by sentence. The final outcome concerning the most serious national issue is in fact adopted by the ruling forces in Egypt. This expression is rejected. Why? The ruling forces in Egypt are those which the people have elected. [applause]

The ruling forces in Egypt is an expression which must never be used by a responsible person because it implies undignified and unbearable meanings. I think enough is enough. They instigated some People's Assembly members to become impudent and curse the president of the republic. Money was paid. When he showed his impudence, he was rewarded.

This method is wrong for our coming democracy. I conducted the negotiations. I am not a ruling force. I am the head of the family of this country and president of this country. [applause]

I did not come to power illegally. The ruling force in Egypt has been in existence thanks to the 23 July Revolution, although some did not recognize it as a revolution. However, such words are not worthy of reply. No, a 23 July Revolution and a 15 May Revolution have occurred. Had it not been for the 15 May Revolution, they would not have come and written what they wrote. [applause]

Furthermore, the second paragraph: I would like these expressions to be dropped because I shall regard them as undemocratic in the Egyptian family. No, there is another description for them which I will not say now. The second paragraph is strange: The ruling forces with the participation of all the Israeli, American and European forces in the absence of real participation by the Egyptian people.

I do not need to answer them because the people have replied. I know your feelings. However, I would like us to start [sentence imcomplete]. Here is an act by the people's representatives. I consider this act extremely serious. The people's representatives must be responsible in every word they say. Why? Because the representative does not speak just for his constituency but for all the Egyptian people. Well, rancor should not lose sight of facts and confuse the people. For example, it has been said that, according to press statements, we have soldiers in eight African states, although OCTOBER magazine said in ten states, without the people being told anything about the nature of the duties of our military forces. It is as if we have armed forces fighting without your knowledge as representatives of the people.

What is more serious is that according to statements by the president our military responsibilities shall be extended to Africa and the gulf area, particularly after the Iranian revolution and the downfall of the shah. Yes, I have indeed made a statement. I have already stated that if the imam of Oman--which is an Arab country, a member of the Arab solidarity charter and an Arab country that has left the circle of name-calling, curses and filth [applause]--if the sultan of Oman asks for my aid, then, as I have already announced, I will go to him and I will inform you about this. The gulf, Africa--Somali President Siad Barre has asked me to help him. Somalia is an Arab state and member of the collective solidarity charter. If Somalia asks for help and it has actually done so, I will send it to him and I will inform you about that.

You remember the Angola question 3 years ago. Before I made the decision to send Egyptian pilots I told the people at Alexandria Stadium on 1 May that Mobutu is asking for help and that Mobutu had severed his relations with Israel before the October War and had gone to the United Nations and said--although he and the Israelis were very friendly--if I were to choose between the brother and the friend, I shall choose the brother, namely, Egypt. This statement was made before the 1973 battle. In 1977, he needed help and informed me of that.

It is Egypt's tradition that we should stand at his side--the man who chose Egypt as a brother, instead of the friend which was Israel that had built his army for him. Before one pilot left, I declared to the people at Alexandria Stadium that this man had chosen his brother instead of his friend and so on and so forth; and that I had decided to send pilots so that they could help him. This is the first time Egyptian crews went outside Egypt with the people's knowledge. This took place at a meeting at a stadium on 1 May and all the world heard it.

I say that this is serious because eight or ten states have been mentioned and it has been said that statements were made by the president. What actually happened regarding the eight or ten states was that they asked Egypt for help in the form of arms to defend themselves. I sent them the arms. It is regrettable that such words should have been weighed by scales of gold because I say before you, the people's representatives, that there is not a single Egyptian soldier fighting outside Egypt. If this should take place I shall tell you about it.

As for the aid, yes. I sent aid to ten, not eight, states in order to defend their independence and the plans which you all heard about. Afterward, they claimed that U.S. pressure failed to influence Saudi Arabia and the other Arab states, particularly the oil states, and that such pressure was then focused on Egypt in order to drive it to ratify a peace treaty. They spoke of U.S. pressure on Egypt after the 23 July Revolution, the 15 May Revolution, and expulsion of 17,000 Soviet experts in 1 week and after the October battle. Egypt's ethics dictate that we not accept pressure either from big powers or from small ones. However, let me remind you and the Arab nation.

I always asserted that the United States holds 99 percent of the cards. The ignorant people who are attacking us now raised an uproar. As you heard, in the United States Carter told me that he disagrees with me about this. I told him not to get angry, for it was not 99 but 99.9 percent. Yes, by God. That is clear.

What is the U.S. role, so that we may have a clear picture? Let us deal clearly with the U.S. role, because this will be included in your records as a history, and in order to stop the waves of doubtcasting from which I suffered before the 1973 battle. At the time the destiny of Egypt and of the Arab nation was in the balance. I endured them because we were all fragmented. However, after that, I will never tolerate the repetition of such statements even if they are made in good faith because these would mislead our new generation--as if the 23 July Revolution, which ousted the British, the king and foreign influence forever, or as if the 15 May Revolution, which affirmed that the will and the decision is Egypt's and that everything on our land belongs to us, did not take place. This is wrong. [applause]

Regrettably, since it is on the same subject, when I said at Cairo University that religion and politics should not be mixed, some people launched a campaign and started exploiting our innocent students and sons. Well, is it appropriate for a magazine supposedly belonging to a religious association to publish a letter it had received to the effect that the United States had asked Mamdhuh Salim, the Egyptian prime minister at the time, to strike against the religious associations in favor of the United States?

This is the sort of attempt to involve religion in politics and vice versa that I oppose. Why? First because the publication of such a document is misleading.

Second because it defeats our sons who are exploited in the name of religion in order to bring to power those behind this. This was the same pattern as that followed by opportunists, those disguised behind religion, those who created political corruption before the 23 July Revolution and the centers of power after 23 July.

It was the same pattern used in order to reach power. No. In Egypt today, power belongs to ethical commitment, ethics. How was such a letter published and how could the youth hear that the United States had asked Egypt to liquidate the religious groups? What had the United States to do with this? What and why? In whose interest is this? Islam is a religion and state. Yes. [applause]

Nobody can harm our generations and our dignity for which we paid dearly. We paid the price in blood, we liberated our decision and our will. I expelled 17,000 Soviet experts 1 year before I began the battle. However, it was Egypt, the decision and will of Egypt which adopted this decision. How could I then inform my generation that the United States had asked the Egyptian prime minister to strike against the religious associations? The letter was naturally written by Al-Qadhdhafi and regarded as a document. He sent it for publication. I asked the minister of the interior to summon their man to tell him to be ashamed, not because the United States sent a letter to Egypt, no, but why should we mislead our sons. We are now enjoying the most admirable moments in our lives because our will and our decision are free and our land is free. I ask you to open the debate after your adopt a decision on the treaty in order that democracy may enter from the widest doors but with guarantees so that the youths may not be misled. [applause]

Whoever says that the United States or any big or small power puts pressure on Egypt is a person who does not live with us at all. I repeat this before our people so everyone can hear: Egypt's decision, Egypt's land, Egypt's policy--all are shaped here. We thank God that Egypt's importance in the world is known. No one comes to tell us to make a decision. Whoever comes here [words indistinct] very kind. The unabiding opposition is carrying out condemnation activity under a guise of compliance. In other words, no one can hold anything against it. [laughter] This is also cleverness.

Someone asks: Does this treaty mean that an Egyptian who shelters a Palestinian or offers him a piece of bread or a glass of water is against the treaty with Israel? [unintelligible talk in the background] I say this is condemnation activity. When you come and discuss it with him, he says: We are just asking a question.

Let us review a bit. You have heard about the Jordanian prime minister who was murdered at the Sheraton Hotel here. Do you remember the incident? He was murdered by Palestinians. Where are they now? Where are they now? There is something strange which you do not know. The families of all the leaders of the Palestinian resistance, who insolently and daringly vilify Egypt and me every morning and evening--we must teach them lessons in ethics, because all this is finished and will not return [applause]--the families of those who vilify us, and the most zealous vilifier who says that the whole problem of As-Sadat is in the second disengagement of forces and then lately that one bullet will solve As-Sadat's problem, and who spread the report that one bullet will solve As-Sadat's problem, has his sons and daughters here in Egypt and they are holding the same discussion in their school in Heliopolis and no one bothers them. They are doing this with the same foulness [unintelligible talk in the background]. Wait, wait. Do you know how many Palestinian students are here?

There are 9,000 students in Egyptian universities after the Arab states, foremost of which are the rejectionist front states, rejected them. The plane used to go to mad boy Al-Qadhdhafi and he would send it to Egypt. Saudi Arabia took the short cut and said: Brothers, you take them. The rejectionist front states and Iraq rejected them, and we have here 9,000 Palestinian students to whom we do not offer a piece of bread or a glass of water! [said sarcastically]

The representative of the organization [the PLO] in Egypt, who left, is also vilifying Egypt. This is a shame. I tell you that they could only be secure about their families in Egypt. Why? Because Egypt has values which I demand we all abide by. The organization representative, who now competes in the campaigns of obscenity and lowliness, has his family here, and they have property. In addition to the villa they live in tney also own apartments which they rent out. A piece of bread or a glass of water!

[Unintelligible talk in the background] No, never mind. Wait and let us take it gradually and historically so that everything we say will be genuine. Look at what Egypt has done. In 1945, 34 years ago, the Arab League Charter was signed. In 1945 Egypt refused to sign the Arab League Charter because it did not contain a provision about the Palestine cause. Furthermore, in September 1976--3 years ago, and this is in the minutes of the meetings--the Arab League, on Egypt's suggestion, adopted a decision accepting Palestine, represented by the PLO, as a full member of the Arab League. This happened in 1976 and it is before you for the record. I want to add to this the fact that the Syrians and the Libyans, who are now inciting the Palestinians, objected to Egypt's move in 1976 to have Palestine join the Arab League as a member.

Have we forgotten the days when I went to the United Nations? Do you recall the first resolution admitting the Palestinians as observers at the United Nations? I had demanded this in my speech to the UN General Assembly in New York. The General Assembly adopted its resolution. Then, for the first time in the history of the Palestine question, Yasir 'Arafat addressed the UN General Assembly at Egypt's request. This is on record.

Now the Soviet Union is the defender of the progressive Arab nation. We are now reactionaries. The progressive ones are the ones defended by the Soviet Union. Well, it was Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir who took Yasir 'Arafat on the plane with him to introduce him to the Soviet Union.

We were not the ones who slaughtered the Palestinians in Tall az-Za'tar. [applause] The Palestinians--who are angry that under the treaty we would not be able to give them a glass of water or a piece of bread--were slaughtered by the Syrians, who are now urging them to speak out. They were slaughtered by King Husayn, to whom they have now turned just to spite Egypt. It is ridiculous; what spite! it is like the miserable joining the hopeless. [proverb] [applause] King Husayn has told them officially: Sorry, but you cannot enter and operate from Jordanian territory. Syria officially did the same: Do not enter and operate from Syria or Jordan. Is this patriotism?

For your information, my problem with King Husayn is very simple. I did not give him the West Bank as a part of the United Arab Kingdom [envisaged earlier by Jordan].

For a simple reason. I hope it will be confirmed in the minutes of your assembly that during my meeting at Camp David with Carter and Begin--that is in the presence of the U.S. President--I said the following: It is Egypt's opinion that neither King Husayn and Jordan, nor Begin and Israel, nor As-Sadat and Egypt, have the right to determine the fate of the Palestinians, because only the Palestinians are entitled to this right. [applause]

I say this and I want you to put it on record in the minutes so that we will know where we are going.

We now come to the most recent events. What did I accomplish for them in the agreement we signed at Camp David on the basis of which self-rule will be established? Instead of killing them in Tall az-Za'tar or in Amman as King Husayn did, I officially asked Israel to release the Palestinian detainees from the detention camps. Instead of killing the families in Tall az-Za'tar and blowing up a building over defenseless women and children, I have reached an agreement on ending the Israeli military rule as soon as the self-rule authority is established. This has been announced in an official agreement and recognized by Israel. I am sending the Isreali military rule for them so that they may establish Palestinian self-rule.

Instead of killing them in Tall az-Za'tar, blowing up a building over women and children or killing them in Amman, under the self-rule they will form their own police force and manage their own affairs for 5 years. In the last 2 of those 5 years, we will meet with them so that they may decide on their fate. According to the Camp David document, the Palestinians have the right of veto when their fate is being decided. If Israel, King Husayn and I should say something not to their liking, they have the right to veto it according to the Camp David document.

Why am I saying all this? It is because our brothers in the Arab nation have not read the agreements. I hope that we here will not act like them. Let us read and learn the facts. Why? So that our discussion may have a foundation and so that we may look forward and leave behind us all this ridiculous nonsense.

What did they say? They said that in accordance with the treaty, Egypt is bound to withdraw its recognition of the PLO and sever all relations with it on the grounds that the PLO is an organization engaging in acts of violence against Israel. Briefly, the treaty commits the Egyptian people and government to wiping their hands clean of everything related to the anti-Zionist Arabism and, as soon as the treaty comes into effect, to behaving on the basis of full and unconditional respect for Zionism and friendly Israel.

Before we answer this, which is a denunciation, they should not say this about an Egyptian living in today's Egypt. This could have happened before the 23 July Revolution, but not in today's Egypt. Present-day Egypt has occupied its position in the Arab nation, in the area and in the world deservedly and without oneupmanship or fabrication of battles, but by work and through a strong, clear political line and Egypt's values and examples.

The talk about withdrawing recognition of the PLO does not deserve a reply from us. However, I will answer by simply telling them to go back to the meeting of the Palestinian Council at the Arab League here. I opened the council before the 1973 battle. They will find out that I opened the Palestinian Council with a speech.

In this speech and in reply to what Golda Meir had said 1 week earlier, I said: Oh PLO, oh Palestinians, form your government in exile and Egypt will immediately recognize it. In the same speech, I severed all relations--diplomatic, economic and all kinds of relations--with King Husayn because of his stand in the Black September massacre. The official speech is in the archives of the Arab League. Bring it and attach it to the documents and everything I say so that they will be included in the Assembly's minutes. Bring the document and read it. We, who were going to recognize a Palestinian government in exile will according to them withdraw our recognition of the PLO.

Another thing, you are aware that no one other than myself and Hafiz al-Asad knew of the date on which the October War was to start. Fifteen days before the battle, a prominent leader of the Palestinian resistance was here in Egypt--the leader who says that As-Sadat's problem can be solved with one bullet because he is a Black September man and whose sons, as I told you and as he knows, are here under the protection of the Egyptian people. This is the tradition here whatever the case may be. We protect whoever seeks refuge in Egypt. This is our tradition.

Fifteen days before the battle, this leader was in Egypt. He is second to 'Arafat. I told him: Go to Beirut and do the following. I am about to start the battle. No one knows the date except me and Hafiz al-Asad. You send me 30 men to enter the battle with me.

Do you know how many my armed forces numbered in those days, on the front and in the rear? One million. My armed forces on the front, in the rear and in the supply lines were one million men. I told him: Send me 30 men so I can establish your right. Thirty men will not decide the fate of the battle. However, in any coming period and negotiations I will say these people fought with me and therefore they must have a share. He agreed and left for Beirut.

I then experienced the darkest days in my life. You all know the diversionary strategy which neither Israel nor the United States detected despite the satellites. Two days after he had arrived in Beirut, a Lebanese newspaper reported that As-Sadat had told a Palestinian leader that the battle would begin soon.

Write in your minutes that the one who did this is Abu Iyad, of Black September, who says one bullet will solve the problem of As-Sadat, and whose sons here are cursing us while enjoying safety and security.

It is being said that we will withdraw our recognition of the PLO, which was the only one to whom I confided about the battle. They were about to expose me. Only God knows the gloomy days I experienced after that newspaper report was published.

God willing, the story of the battle will be written in books. Had Israel launched a preemptive strike 3 days before the battle, it would have exhausted me. Had it launched a preemptive strike 2 days or 1 day before the battle, it would not have exhausted me. However, 3 days before the battle it would have.

This eminent and great leader of struggle and so and so volunteered to publish a statement in Beirut that As-Sadat had told him that the battle was imminent. The Jews did not notice this and God Almighty helped us all the way. [applause]

Egypt has not purged itself of everything that has an Arab character. This expression is also wrong. However, Egypt asks these persons to purge themselves of lowliness, treachery and treason.

[As-Sadat reads from the petition] The treaty was negotiated between Egypt and Israel under the auspices of the United States and without the participation of any other party. Therefore, it is a bilateral and separate solution.

I had hope that the representatives of the Egyptian people would ask and make inquiries before their words could be used to fuel the battle against Egypt.

It is a shame, shame. I will tell you the story of the separate solution. The first to use the term separate solution was the Soviet Union after Kissinger came to me following the October War.

I met for 4 hours with Gromyko. I disclosed what happened during that meeting some years ago. I am not disclosing something new. Everything is written. I also spoke about that meeting in one of my comments on our relations with the Soviet Union. Gromyko came to me and we sat for 4 hours. He was angry because Kissinger came to me and we started the peace process with him.

The Soviet Union told Syria that this is a separate solution. Al-Asad said this is a separate solution. When they first said such things, I was pained because in Egypt we know loyalty and values.

When Hafiz al-Asad came to me, I told him: What is this talk? What separate solution? I brought a disengagement for you before I brought one for Egypt. I restored the land for you you had lost in the battle.

He lost 30 kms from the starting line. Egypt took 20 kms inside Sinai and did not budge. This is despite what the Russians told Hafiz and Hafiz himself told me this and does not deny it.

The Russians told him not to listen to As-Sadat because he and his army will stay at the canal after 2 hours and you will remain alone. This is what Hafiz al-Asad told me.

Two days before the battle, the Soviet ambassador told me to ask for a cease-fire 2 days after the battle. You all read what happened and you heard that at 2000 hours on 6 October, only 6 hours after the battle had started, the Soviet ambassador brought me an official request for a cease-fire from the Soviet leadership in accordance with a request from Syrian President al-Asad. I explained all this.

However, this is on record. Afterward, he left the battle. Meanwhile, I stayed 17 days, including well over 7 days against the United States and Israel. This went on until I said: No, I will not fight the United States because I care for my country. After all these things, and after he had left the battle after 3 days, he says it is As-Sadat who effected the cease-fire and undermined the battle, while he disengaged his forces some 40 kms back. He went backward and stood there from the third day; that was it!

The important thing is this: Hafiz came to me and told me: This is a separate solution. When Gromyko came to see me, I told him: Mr Gromyko, this is shameful. Be ashamed of yourself. Which separate solution are you speaking of? Why is this attempt being made to drive a wedge between Egypt and its Arab brothers? I spoke to him about this separate solution for 4 hours.

May I express my desire that no People's Assembly member from Egypt--and Egypt is something very dear, very great, very noble and very loyal--should give ammunition to those who are hurling obscenities at Egypt.

The separate solution is a Russian expression which Hafiz al-Asad used. I reported him to Boumediene, may God rest his soul. That happened in those days when we spoke frankly and clearly. May God rest his soul, Boumediene bears witness to this subject. You will find out that I had written about this so many years ago. You will find this subject mentioned in the part dealing with my relationship with the Soviet Union.

What is this story of the separate solution? I reacted very emotionally. How could such things be said? In other words, this is shameful. This is as if in our countryside, one peasant tells another: You are not honorable. It is that simple. If in Syria and elsewhere they tolerate such talk, we do not tolerate it in our country. This is because we indeed have our values. Just that simple, the story of the separate solution begun by the Soviet Union was peddled!

Well, why then were our talks stalled during the past 16 months if it was a matter of a separate solution? Why were our talks stalled if it was a matter of a separate solution? Never, Israel wanted it to be a separate solution. We said: No, it is imperative to bring about a linkage because it is the cornerstone for comprehensive peace. However, I regret what the petition says.

Then let us talk about the story that the negotiations were held between Egypt and Isreal under the patronage of the United States. The negotiations were not held under U.S. patronage, no. They were held in the presence of the United States as a basic party to the negotiations. Our dream was to neutralize the United States after Johnson's presidency. Johnson went along with Israel on everything and conspired with it on 5 June. You are all aware of this. Our entire objective was only to neutralize the United States after Johnson's presidency. No, the United States joined in as a basic party and it has been proven that the United States held not just 99 percent of the cards to a solution, as I was saying. The United States held 99.9 percent of the cards to a solution in its hands--the solution was not in any other hands.

Therefore, I also dislike any suggestion that the negotiations were held under U.S. patronage. This is because I want my sons in Egypt, that is, our generation, to know what we are living in. We are living in dignity, decision making, control of our will and equality. We have absolutely no complexes. Such a suggestion stems from the old complexes.

They also said that the negotiations were held without the participation of any other Arab party. Well, at the Cairo conference, I invited them to join us. Nobody came. What do you want? King Husayn figures that the process will end in failure and that we would then tell him: Please, come and save things. He would then say: Well, I will take the West Bank of the United Arab Kingdom, which he proclaimed long ago. Thus, the process would fail and end. However, I regret that this is not the case. As I have told you, and my statements are in your records, in the presence of Carter I told Begin: Neither you, King Husayn nor myself can determine the destiny of the Palestinians--only the Palestinians can determine their own destiny. Well, what am I now doing by this agreement? What I have done is that I am just putting them on the sound course of self-rule. However, I regret to say that I am not solving the Palestine problem by doing this. The Palestinians will solve it by determining their own fate. It is incumbent on me to put them on the sound course through self-rule and through the sound course which can possibly be pursued.

If any of the Arabs has a more sound course, let him be my guest. I will then cancel my own moves and follow him. I have no objection.

The words separate solution indeed angered me. This is precisely because, as I have told you, when I heard these words I imagined that somebody was telling me: You are a man without ethics, loyalty, honor or anything. Why do I say Egypt? [sentence as heard] Because in Egypt we have limits called the sense of shame. We do not go beyond these limits. He who does not discern what is shameful is not worthy of being Egyptian, never. Shame stops us at limits. These people had absolutely no limits. Above all there is this impertinent talk about the separate solution. Futhermore, and with all impertinence, he tells you: You have ceased firing and you have lost the battle. Meanwhile, he went back by 30 kms and stood there. In other words, I do not like us to discuss this. Then they tell me [in the petition]: Well, did any one of them come and I refused him? Never. In other words, this [accusation in the petition] is a contradiction.

This question of the settlements is exactly like that of Jerusalem. I have told you the story of Jerusalem and I have quoted to you what I said in the Knesset, at Camp David, on Israeli television, and to the world at large.

Regarding the question of the settlements, Dr Mustafa Khalil will submit to you the documents which stipulate that the settlements are illegal in form and substance. So why the outbidding on this matter?

Before I close the subject of our Palestinian brothers, I wish to tell you that despite the fact that at the Palestine National Council I spoke about a provisional government, and they were afraid--actually they were not afraid. Yasir 'Arafat told me frankly that he could not do it because Syria would not allow it. At the time the Syrian president and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi--in those days we were discussing the state of the confederation of Arab republics--sent messages to me inquiring and saying what is this new position, you have not asked our opinion. Well, I adopted that stand, as I have told you, because Golda Meir said a week earlier that there is no such thing as Palestine in history. So--incidentally I hope that my entire speech will be lodged with the documents in the archives of the Assembly for you all to see--I said why don't you, Palestinians, form your provisional government like Algeria did, and I will be the first to recognize it.

Well, in the course of events, what did the PLO do? At the time of the first disengagement, Syria got angry, attacked us and incited the Palestinians. Then Syria itself concluded the first disengagement which I promoted for it, and the Palestinians returned to the fold and Yasir 'Arafat came back. When we concluded the second disengagement the esteemed Palestinian organization came out with a statement to the Arab nation after the meeting of the Palestine Council in Damascus. In the statement they said that in the second disengagement Egypt was exchanging a set of principles for a piece of land and tnat the Palestine Council decided to send a delegation to all the Arab stayes beginning with Egypt--after levelling accusations against us, and rudely saying that with the second disengagement agreement, the return of the passes and the oil, we were exchanging principles for a peace of territory and sand. They issued their statement and then they sent the delegation. The following day I said to the whole Arab world: Sory, I will not receive the PLO delegation.

I want the top PLO Executive Committee to come to me, but no delegation. I also said that it was insolent and disgraceful to talk about exchanging principles for a piece of land, and that we reject this.

Syria then entered Lebanon and got involved there, and so on, for 20 months. Then one day after the attack Hafiz al-Asad came here and said to me: Let us form a joint political command with Egypt, so I signed with him, so he would lick off all that he said after the second disengagement agreement. Yasir 'Arafat came to me and said let bygones be bygones, after having said that we were exchanging a piece of land for a piece of principles.

This is really regrettable. Why? Because anyone in the Arab nation or elsewhere who imagines that he can impose a trusteeship on Egypt is mistaken and detestable. This is because Egypt is very, very big in its history, values, genuineness, people, standards of ethics and limits, creed, land, skies, and everything. It is gigantic. These dwarfs will never reach it. [applause]

I ask that we not give those attacking Egypt fuel to do so. Nevertheless, in each family there is the good and the bad. In our Egyptian family we accept all, but in the coming practice of democracy the bad should attempt to keep his wickedness to himself, not for his country. In the Egyptian family, we do not suppress the freedom of any person or open detention camps. No, in the Egyptian family there will be complete democracy. As I told you, those wishing to form a party can do so.

Regarding the Palestinians, allow me to address a few words to the Palestinians before I close the subject. From this platform in the People's Assembly I address the Palestinian people in the West Bank, in Gaza and in every Arab land. I sincerely urge them to discard calls of charlatancy from leaderships that have forgotten their sacred duty and resorted to outbiddings, threats and intimidation. I tell the Palestinian people, who are enduring and suffering, that demonstrations will not bring about the expulsion of the occupier, that slogans do not solve any question, that the terrorism, threats and intimidation to which they are subjected by those leaderships will never achieve the liberation of land or the freedom of the Palestinian man on his land. Which is more useful: demonstrations and slogans which do not budge the occupier from his positions or an autonomy in which you exercise self-rule and the Israeli military and civil rule is abolished so that you may determine the future of the land and its people? What is better: demonstrations and slogans, or withdrawal of Israeli forces from your land to defined positions preliminary to their full withdrawal? What is better: demonstrations and slogans, or the release of prisoners and detainees of your brothers and sons? I am addressing the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza and in all the Arab states. What is better: for you to be terrorized by false leaderships, or for the land to be returned to you and for you to determine your destiny with full freedom? We must always be clear. A bomb here or there will not achieve liberation. Slogans will not build a rule or a state. The continuation of a system that has proved to be a failure will only yield further failure. Review the history of your question with intelligent awareness and sound understanding.

For example, the Arab states and the Palestinians rejected the partition plan for 30 years. What happened? If they now want to return to the partition plan, they will be told that it is a dead horse, just as they told us regarding the resolution I spoke about before.

After we reject, fumble and create an uproar, how can we return to ask for what was offered us? They would say no. Partition has become the dream of the PLO. Never. It is a dead horse. I have asked our Palestinian brothers to participate in talks on autonomy and not to stay behind. In the first phase of the self-rule, as I said, I will not determine the future of the Palestinians because it is not my right nor will I allow myself to do so. I will only guide them to the autonomy road. After that they will have to take part as a basic party after self-rule to govern themselves and to have their own police force. They will then determine their future as they desire. As I said, they have the right to participate. I hope they will not stay behind and that they will learn from past lessons. I hope they will overcome the calls for terrorism and threats. However, there is one thing I must say before I end my address to the Palestinians: In their attacks against Egypt and in the filth of the accusations and their indulgence in everything that is contrary to the simplest principle of ethics, I tell them and warn them that strong and faithful Egypt is capable of replying.

With every ambassador here they are creating an incident for me in the course of their charlatan struggle. I will reply with extreme harshness. [applause] Faithful and strong Egypt will not reply 2-fold, but 100- and 1,000-fold.

I am sorry I have taken a long time talking. I thank very much our brothers who gave me the subject matter. Instead of getting lost in the speech, I found the whole process ready. [applause]

There is one little thing. They are saying that I accepted the question from the material aspect because the United States, for example, is going to give us aid and so forth.

Naturally, if this were the case and if the criteria were purely material interests, all the Arab states have offered to pay Egypt $5 billion annually for 10 years. They are saying that the $3 billion over 5 years equals $15 billion, and $5 billion over 10 years is $50 billion instead of $15 billion.

First, I wish that we would rise above the mentality of trading and traders. In policy, Egypt has never been a merchant or accepted trading or traders. Unfortunately, they in the Arab area believe in this and they are free to do so. The story of the $5.5 billion: We did not make peace in order to receive it. I made peace for the Egyptian nation and for the coming Egyptian generations. The battle has no end. The battle is completely clear. At a time when I can avoid calamities for my people, the army, the Egyptian mother, sister and wife, I must do so. But this does not have a price, and outbiddings and prices cannot enter into it.

However, let us speak about the $5.5 billion. Who is providing the $5.5 billion? Iraq, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE or Algeria? We have tried Libya. Their share was $1 billion. We tried Libya after the battle. Twice, he sent back the oil tankers empty after he had undertaken to supply us with oil. I was forced to ask the shah of Iran to reroute tankers immediately from the sea to me because Egypt had a 15-day fuel reserve and if anything had happened, the armed forces would have used it in 1 hour. How would I be able to bring the bread from the bakeries? This was Al-Qadhdhafi, who sent me Mirage planes, and in order to keep these planes out of the battle he refused to purchase spare parts for them and then withdrew them. Is that the person I would depend on for Egypt and the rebuilding of Egypt? He is a dwarf, and I will not depend on him because he is a dwarf.

Iraq; by what right does Iraq allege nationalism in Baghdad and enter the battle? When the Arabs embargoed oil in the October War, Iraq officially announced that it refused to enter the war and sold its oil to the United States and Europe. It did this openly, according to an official statement. This is Iraq, which some call the defender of progress and progressiveness. Libya! Iraq was more honest than Libya because it announced in an official statement that it would not enter the war. But in Libya, Al-Qadhdhafi became a zealot and a hero and used Italy to bring oil to Europe and the United States. Do I take $5.5 billion from them? Do I place the fate of the Egyptian people in their hands? It was known that the $5 billion was required to purchase the will of Egypt, the decision of Egypt and the strength of Egypt. We will never sell our will or decision.

The note, as I told you, has saved me the trouble of preparing a long speech. I did not know where to begin and where to end.

I will go back to the note of our brothers the members of the Revolution Council. I have two notes, but one is sufficient for me to answer, because the two together are clearly the same. However, I will go back to our brothers, the Assembly members. I have said before that today's generation is the 6 October generation, not the 23 July generation. I am one of the 23 July generation, and I consider myself so. By God, on my return from the airport after I had signed the treaty, when I saw the people out in the street waiting to welcome me, I said to myself: What is the hope of any politician? To win the love and support of the masses is the peak of achievement. [applause] Is it a matter of the seat? No. I want this to be established in your records. I am from a previous generation, and the October generation must assume responsibilities. I state this frankly before you. [unintelligible talk in the background]

One final thing I want to discuss in the note of our brothers the members of the old Revolution Council. It is the question of the alternative. I would have liked to hear what the alternative is. They say that the alternative--after they made the remarks which I answered--they say that the alternative was in our hands and we disregarded it. It is something we have clarified before regarding the confrontation of our enemy--a united front backed by all available weapons of the Arab and Islamic nation. These weapons are many and effective. We felt their effectiveness in the 1973 war. This is because God will never change the condition of a people until they change it themselves and provided we have confidence in ourselves and in God's victory to us and what He promised us when He said: "And it was due from us to aid those who believed," and Who said: "So lose not heart, nor fall into despair, for ye must gain mastery." [Koran verses]

Let us go back and see the alternative--the alternative which they claim we have disregarded. What is this alternative? It is the confrontation of our enemy as one united front. I did it in October. The rulers of the Arab nation at that time were of a different standard. There was Faysal, God bless his soul. No. It was not we who destroyed the united front. It is those who try to impose custodianship on Egypt and to buy Egypt. Those who try this destroyed the united front.

Then a funny thing happened. You know that during Camp David they met in Tripoli and insulted Egypt. They decided to freeze their relations with Egypt. I said: No. I will break off my relations with these five rejectionist states. Today, the five rejectionist states are involving the remainder of the Arab nation in order to break off their relations like we broke off relations with them. This took place during Camp David. They leveled insults against Egypt. Today they are trying to involve the Arab nation by calling for withdrawal of the ambassadors, and so forth.

Well, if the guardian of the Arab nation is the 'Alawite of Syria's Al-Ba'th [Hafiz al-Asad], the At-Takriti of Iraq's Al-Ba'th [Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr], the madman of Libya, and the agents of South Yemen who do not deserve mentioning--if these are the leaders of the caravan, 1,000 goodbys to them and their caravan. [applause]

They say: A united front--we are not the ones who destroyed it--supported by all available weapons of the Arab and Islamic nation. What Arab weapons did we have in the October War? We had the following: 25 Mirage planes sent by Al-Qadhdhafi, with 12 Libyan pilots to fly 12 planes and the other 13 planes to be flown by Egyptian pilots. He refused to buy spare parts for the planes, so they were grounded. When he came after the war and asked for the planes back, half of them were sent back aboard planes and not flying. The planes which my sons the Egyptian pilots had were flying. You will all remember what Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi did then. First, he did not send them except after doing something terrible. They all wanted me to tell them when the battle would take place. I am never so naive. May God bless the soul of Boumediene. When I sent the chief of staff to see him, he told him: Tell us 3 months before the battle and we will send you forces. In other words, I have to decide 3 months in advance and then tell him to send forces. Then the whole world would know that after 3 months the battle would take place. This is stupid. This is ridiculous. Who did I want to fool? I wanted to fool the United States and Israel, and I did fool them. Do I want people to fool me? [applause]

Shaykh Zayid [ibn Sultan Al Nuhayan, of the UAE] came to visit me, and he brought Al-Qadhdhafi so that we would be reconciled. Do you know what was the first thing Al-Qadhdhafi said? He said: I want back all my weapons in Egypt. What, my son? I asked. He said: I want 25 planes back. I said: All right, you will get them tomorrow. There were 100 tanks in Marsa Matruh and an artillery battery. I told him: My son, they will be with you in the morning. Indeed, they were with him in the morning. This is the armament of the Arab nation. Iraq sent planes. They were here for 10 days, and when the battle of the bulge took place, suddenly and without contacting us Iraq refueled the planes and took them back.

By God, what is going on? These are facts and I hope that the war minister will put all the relevant documents before the Assembly so that everything will be clear.

Boumediene, may God rest his soul, sent me 150 tanks at the time of the bulge, after the cease-fire. He sent me nothing during the battle. Why? Because he held the view that I should have given him a 3-month prior notice of the battle. I could not do this. In fact, the first tanks I received following the cease-fire were Boumediene's 150 tanks. I am making this statement just for your information. This statement exists, it is on record and you know it. They did not fire. They were trained in firing by Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali. He was then in charge of tanks and armored vehicles because he is an armored corps officer. He took them to the firing range, trained them, taught them how to aim and sent them to me at the bulge. This is the Libyan [as heard] [force] which came.

Is this the Arab front? Are these the Arab arms and is this the front, which we have rejected? No. Then we come to the question of efficiency--and I say we experienced their efficiency in the 1973 war! Regrettably, the military knowhow of my brothers is obsolete.

Furthermore, I cannot say what our specialization is or what our work is. This is because just as in every domain we use the most modern contemporary technology, in military matters we also use the most modern contemporary technology. Well, I want to tell you something: I will compensate my arms only through the U.S. arms deal I have concluded with the United States. This deal will include Phantom planes, missiles and naval arms. This deal will enable Egyptian military technology to make 20 leaps forward. There is no need for me to say this. [applause]

At this point, then, it is imperative for me to say something: These two notes also contain things which are shameful to say. They say that Egypt will serve as a policeman for the United States and for U.S. interests. Well, we have not worked for the Soviet Union and I will work for no one. On the contrary, in 1956 'Abd an-Nasir nationalized the dreadful bastion of Western monopoly which was the Suez Canal. In 1972 I expelled 17,000 Soviet experts within a week. So that you will insert it in your minutes, so that our sons will know it and so that they will not listen to the talk which distorts Egypt's battle as well as Egypt's value and principles, I told the Soviets throughout my meetings with them--and I have previously made this statement public--that I can be a strong friend. However, I refuse to be a weak friend, depending on you or on an agent of yours. The Soviets know this.

Never. We neither work for anybody nor do we play the role of policeman. The arms about which I have spoken to you, which enable my armed forces to leap forward and which I am prepared to commit myself to working with, through the Egyptian soldiers, fall within the framework of the Arab nation's collective defense agreement. [applause] For instance, I name Oman, Somalia and before all these comes Sudan. [applause]

Believe me, the thing most detrimental to us is for us to belittle ourselves by ourselves. The United States knows us well. We do not serve the interests of big or small states. Never. Furthermore, the whole world has placed us in a considerably prestigious place. We then say no. We write and give ammunition, particularly to the obscenities of Baghdad which emerge from there. They want to rule the Arab nation. We supply them with the ammunition for saying that we are agents. They are the agents. We abolished this long ago, ever since there was a secretary in an embassy governing their excellencies the gentlemen of august position and the pashas. This ended long ago. These words are final; Egypt is high up in the seventh sky. All the world knows us, our position, prestige and strength. All the events which occur within the Arab nation and in the area further reinforce our strength. Then we ourselves say that we will defend U.S. interests and that we will work for a great state. Believe me, I have not said half what I wanted to say, by God. But I don't want to tire you.

I now come to the second part of my speech for today. This part is related to the coming phase, God willing. As I have told you, we are facing enormous difficulties. These enormous problems require solutions of equal size and more. I primarily mention the problem of food production, the problem of housing and the infrastructure of the country. You heard me speak in the United States. I went to the House of Representatives, and I hope that the speech I delivered in the House and in the Senate will be included with the treaty documents in the Assembly's archives so that you will know what I told the U.S. representatives and senators. I told them that we are not going to throw our economic burden on them because we are aware that only we can build our economy and we shall depend on ourselves. However, we need modern technology and modern equipment.

I also told them: Redtape, we have; unhealthy balance of payments, we have; and an exhausted economy, I have. I am telling our people all this through you. Egypt has everything that enables it to prosper. About its agricultural land, the American experts said that it is the best agricultural land in the world. Instead of staying here for 1 month, the American expert came and stayed for only 6 days, after which he said: I am astonished because it is unmatched anywhere in the world. Your Nile waters are unmatched anywhere in the world as far as the level of softness is concerned. There is land and there is water. You have heard me say that we are throwing away 6 billion cubic meters of water into the Mediterranean every year. Why? Because we are using it to operate the turbines which provide us with electricity there. There is water and there is land. Almighty God has endowed us with good weather, farmers, Egyptian mentality and knowledge, but we do not have the technology or the equipment, which require capital.

I tell you that we are now at the beginning of the road, the upsurge. Therefore, I will begin this road with the debate which will take place during the coming phase so that we may shape our life and our system and agree on what to do. Therefore, the aim is not to attack the system; opposition does not mean attacking the system and using certain expressions by assuming that democracy, freedom and boldness allow the use of such expressions. No. Genuine democracy means that we live as one family, sharing the burden and carrying it together.

I will begin this with the human charter and the controls. Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil is now busy with the World Bank; the International Monetary Fund; with Germany, where I reached an agreement with Schmidt; with the United States, with whose President and the people concerned I reached an agreement; and with Japan which, God willing, I will visit in July. We have to agree on the solutions which, as I said, should be ambitious because the problems are terrible.

Regarding the solution of the housing problem, if I were to say, for example, that we will continue at the present rate, the problem would not be solved in 100 years. Regarding the solution of the food problem, it is a sin and ingratitude on our part toward God because we have the land, the water, good weather and everything but cannot provide food for ourselves.

The operation requires sweat. The prime minister is preparing programs for bold solutions to the housing problem. I have asked him to do so--to find extremely bold solutions as great as the problems themselves in order to solve the problems.

I can only tell you that, praise be to God, I have seen the land and the water with my own eyes, not just in reports. I am living under the sky [of Egypt's good weather]. and I have seen what Sinai--which is coming back to us--has to offer. God willing, on 26 May, we will celebrate in Al-'Arish, the capital of Sinai. [applause] God willing, we will take with us our sons who were wounded in the battle and the doctors who treated them. As you heard me say at the doctors association, there were surgeons who did not sleep for 3 nights because they were operating on our sons to stop their bleeding and save their lives. I will take these doctors with me, God willing. We will all be together there, God willing--the whole family, the good and the bad. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, members of the People's Assembly. We have just completed the minor struggle; let us all move on to the major struggle, which is the struggle of the soul. The struggle of the soul is harder and the bravest kind of struggle after responsibility has called upon us to make the hardest and bravest decisions. We just need to prove to ourselves before we prove to the whole world that the heros of 6 October 1973 and the heroes of 26 March 1979--the heroes of war and the heroes of peace--are also the vanguards of the heroes in the hardest battle of our existence, which is the struggle of the soul.

The struggle of the soul calls on us to resist the deviation of the soul. The struggle of the soul urges us to keep out evil and hatred and cleanse our hearts with love, purify our bodies with the most honorable sweat, protect our home from the wicked, give and not tire of giving.

Brothers and sisters, open your hearts, cooperate for righteousness and piety, pray for the creator. Always remember that work is a kind of worship; legitimate livelihood is by legitimate work and there is no place for greedy thieves who such the blood of the toiling people. Peace is for all; the produce of the land and the factory is from all and to all; one who is able to work and does not work is a thorn in our hearts.

Brothers and sisters, there is one last thing I want to say which I find it difficult to express. My inability to express myself prompts me to maintain a state of silent recognition, which is more eloquent than any statement. Silent recognition is all the expression I am capable of in the face of this flood of millions of people and the feelings of love, support, and loyalty with which our great people who believe in the great peace have surrounded me.

Brothers and sisters, 40 million men, women, and children were with me and around me, before my eyes and in my heart, giving me strength and renewing my determination in the most difficult moments and in the happiest moments. They did not leave me for one moment because they were my strength and shield, and I did not leave them for one moment as I was carrying their shield and confronting with it the mountains of crises and obstacles until the common hope of the dream of peace had been realized.

Brothers and sisters, I am proud of you, of your assembly, of your work and of your feelings. I may have been somewhat severe, but whenever I am on this rostrum I am always happy with you as one family and proud of you all. If there was any severity in my words [applause], it was because I want the honor of Egypt to be completed through our performance--our performance in the village, in the factory, in the school, and in this honorable place which houses the representatives of the people--truly the representatives of the people--who fought, persevered, endured, and struggled until we were able to achieve peace. Peace is God. "God is he, then whom there is no other God; the sovereign, the holy one, the source of peace, the guardian of faith, the preserver of safety, the exalted in might, the irresistible, the supreme, glory to God, high is he above the partners they attribute to him." [Koran verse]

May God grant you success, and peace be upon you. [applause]

Khalil Assembly Statement

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[Text] Cairo, 5 April--Dr Mustafa Khalil, prime minister and foreign minister, delivered a statement on the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel at the session held by the People's Assembly tonight. The following is text of the statement:

Chairman of the People's Assembly, brother and sister members of the assembly. And say: Work righteousness. For soon will God observe your work, and his apostle and the believers. [Koran verse]

In these historic days we are all witnessing and experiencing, I am honored to present to the representatives of the Egyptian people another fruit of the heroic struggle we have all experienced all these long years which have been full of sweat, blood, devotion and sacrifice in defense of our homeland and our Arab and Islamic nation.

The peace movement with Israel, which was signed by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat on 26 March 1979 in Washington, will achieve a complete Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Egyptian territory of Sinai and lay the first stepping stone toward ahcieving a just settlement of the Palestine question, enabling the fraternal Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights, including the right to determine their own destiny and to establish their national authority in their land, Palestine.

This great achievement, for which Egypt fought a complex and fierce battle, will remain forever a historic epic in the people's struggle and their readiness to face and respond to challenges and to overcome them at any price. We have paid a heavy price. We have paid it with the blood of 100,000 Egyptian martyrs and with 40 billion Egyptian pounds in 30 years. During that time we fought five wars, which we crowned with our victory in the great October War. That war served as our springboard toward the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

After our victory in the glorious October War, the conflict entered a new phase marked by the historic initiative made by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat in the name of the Egyptian people, who have stood solidly behind their president, blessed his steps and backed his firm position which was based on adhering to the full rights of the Arab people and trying to secure these rights with all available means. The president expressed this position in his first initiative on 4 February 1971. He expressed this position once again at the peak of the glorious victories of our forces when he stood before your esteemed assembly on 16 October 1973 calling for a just and lasting solution.

Then came the historic initiative when the president made the trip to Jerusalem on 19 November 1977, faced the Israeli people and the entire world and stressed that for peace to be [words indistinct] it must include all the parties and guarantee the restoration of the full rights to their owners [words indistinct].

This was followed by a phase of difficult and intensive political activities through the talks which were held in Ismailia, Cairo and at Leed's Castle. During these talks the Egyptian stand was very clear, very firm and very strong in its adherence to right and justice. The Egyptian stand was based on our endeavor to realize Arab aims. Egypt had the honor to present these aims and exert its efforts to achieve them. These aims are:

1. The settlement must be comprehensive.
2. The settlement must give the Arab peoples the opportunity to regain all the territories occupied since 1967.
3. The settlement must insure the Palestinian people's rights, because the Palestinian problem is the crux and cause of the dispute.
4. The settlement must give the peoples and states in the region the opportunity to enjoy security and safety within their borders.

In order to realize these aims, the Egyptian strategy was based on the following clear points:

1. Strengthening Egypt's own moral and material forces.
2. Winning world public opinion to the Egyptian side.
3. Encouraging the voices, heard among the Israeli people due to the peace initiative, that called for the need to cooperate with the sincere Egyptian efforts for the sake of just and comprehensive peace.
4. Achieving full U.S. participation in the peace endavors from a new position, different from the previous U.S. position--a position that was primarily characterized by complete bias in favor of the Israeli stands.
5. Bypassing the differences that arose in the Arab world. This could be achieved through continued contacts with Arab brothers, with whom we never differed on aims. Egypt, with its historical vision and with its courageous leadership, has followed a new, most difficult and thorny path to realize these aims. We held the view that it was the only path that would lead our Arab nation to its aims and aspirations, beginning with the glorious victory of October.

Within the context of the strategy that has been formulated by Egypt in service to the Arab nation's objectives, President as-Sadat managed in the Camp David agreement in September to achieve the following two agreements: the framework of overall peace in the Middle East, and the framework of an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, which constitutes the first stage and first step toward achieving overall peace.

The government presented the two agreements to the people's representatives. Thorough and vigilant discussions took place, ending in the approval of these agreements by an overwhelming majority, which sincerely expressed the Egyptian people's stand in full support of the efforts of their wise leadership and their definite desire to achieve an overall peace in the area. This peace would enable the people to focus on utilizing their creative potentials in building a new society in which complete democracy and prosperity prevail.

Actually, the most important part of the Camp David agreements is that they managed, for the first time, to define a practical method of implementing Security Council Resolution 242 in accordance with Arab and international interpretation. Israel, however, tried for long years to hide behind interpretations aimed at evading its commitment to withdraw from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967; namely, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, Sinai and the Gaza Strip.

As you all know, a new series of negotiations began on the basis of the Camp David agreements. The United States participated fully in these negotiations. During these negotiations, the Egyptian negotiator adhered to the firm principles that were defined by the Egyptian leadership in implementation of the Arab objectives, which were agreed upon and defined, to the effect that there will be no relinquishment of the land or of sovereignty. These objectives also stressed the need to place the Palestinian people on the beginning of the road to regaining their full national rights, including their right to determine their future.

Brothers and sisters, members of the esteemed People's Assembly: I do not want to go into the details of these negotiations, which went on for 6 months of hard, continued work. At the end we managed, thanks to our adherence to our stands, to the Egyptian people's strong support for the leadership and to the constructive efforts of U.S. President Jimmy Carter, to achieve the treaty, the supplementary [at-takmili] agreement and all documents that are being presented to you today that were signed at the same time in Washington on 26 March.

On this occasion, I would like to praise the tremendous efforts the Egyptian diplomats exerted, each in his own capacity. All proceeded as one team, believing in their homeland and leadership and working continuously for the sake of participating in achieving the sublime and noble pan-Arab objectives. Our people and their leadership are asserting their adherence to these objectives every day.

Before I discuss these documents, I would like to reaffirm that there have been no secret agreements, pledges or provisions. The documents which have been signed and which need your approval in order to be enforced are:

1. The peace treaty between Egypt and Israel and its three appendixes.

2. A supplementary agreement in the form of a letter signed by the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the prime minister of Israel, addressed to the President of the United States, that deals with establishing full Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip within a transitional period of 5 years. This is considered preparatory to the Palestinian people being able to determine their future.

3. Official interpretations of some articles that are an integral part of the treaty. We were anxious to obtain them in order to confront Israel's attempt to interpret these articles of the treaty in a way that would remove their significance and their real objective.

4. The text of the message sent by the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the President of the United States concerning the exchange of ambassadors between Egypt and Israel.

Brothers and sisters, I would now like to place before you some facts pertaining to these agreements. They are:

First, concerning the occupied Egyptian territories in Sinai.

1. Full Israeli withdrawal from Sinai and the liquidation of settlements that had been established by Israel there will take place within a period not exceeding 3 years from the day of ratifying this treaty, provided that there shall be a first stage for the withdrawal. This will take place within a period of 9 months and will cover almost three-fourths of Sinai.

2. Israel will withdraw to the international border with Egypt, and Egypt will regain its sovereignty over its entire national soil and all its resources.

Second, concerning self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

The joint message signed by the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister includes clear provisions of which the following are the most important points:

1. The message derives from the comprehensive peace framework signed at Camp David on 17 September.

2. Egypt and Israel will hold negotiations within 1 month of the ratification of the peace treaty in order to agree on the basis of the elections and the jurisdictions of the Palestinian self-government. The Egyptian negotiating team could include Palestinian elements.

3. The invitation is open for Jordan to join these negotiations.

4. Egypt and Israel shall try to complete these negotiations in 1 year so that the elections will take place as soon as possible. Palestinian self-government shall be established 1 month after the elections.

5. The objective is to give the West Bank and Gaza complete self-rule.

6. The Israeli military government and its civil administration shall be abolished as soon as the Palestinian self-government has been established. At the same time, some of the Israeli forces shall be withdrawn, and the remaining forces shall be redeployed in specific places outside residential areas.

7. The United States pledges to participate fully and effectively during all the stages of the negotiations.

In the meantime, Israel has agreed to our request to pledge to the United States that it will adopt specific measures in the West Bank and Gaza to improve the political situation and to create the right atmosphere for the Palestinians to exercise their right to choose their elected representatives. These measures include the removal of restrictions on political expression and political activities, the cancellation of the restrictions on freedom of movement and travel abroad by the population, the release of political detainees, the reunification of Palestinian families through the return of refugees, the transfer of the headquarters of the Israeli military government to a place outside the city of Gaza and the cessation of military maneuvers inside the Gaza Strip.

Third, regarding the interpretations of certain provisions in the draft treaty to which we objected, we have been able to reach interpretations compatible with the Egyptian positions. These official interpretations contained the following most important provisions:

1. The provision that Egypt shall exercise its sovereignty over every spot in Sinai from which Israel withdraws without waiting for the complete withdrawal.

2. A clarification that it is the right of either side to request an amendment to the security arrangements applied in Sinai. The other side is obliged, within 3 months from the submission of the request, to enter into negotiations to amend these arrangements which currently include: A demilitarized buffer zone in which the UN forces and the Egyptian civilian police will be stationed; a zone of limited arms and forces east of the main Sinai passes in which four battalions with light arms will be stationed; the passes and west of that area up to the Suez Canal where Egyptian strike forces specified under the agreement will be stationed.

3. It is impermissible to interpret Article VI of the draft treaty contrary to the Camp David framework which provides for a comprehensive settlement.

Moreover, the obligations under the peace treaty have no priority over other obligations for the parties or vice versa. The matter will be left subject to the general rules of international law.

This confirms Egypt's adherence to its Arab obligations, particularly those relating to the collective defense pact among the Arab states.

4. Concerning the exchange of ambassadors: This will be dealt with within the framework of normalizing relations. This will take place after 1 month from the date of Israel's withdrawal from the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line. This date will be close to the date of conducting the elections and setting up Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

5. Concerning the oil issue: We refused to give a pledge or guarantee that we will supply Israel with any particular amount of oil or will give it preferential treatment. All that has been agreed is that Israel would be allowed to submit tenders to buy oil in excess of Egypt's needs. This put Israel in the same position as the other parties.

6. Normalization of relations with Israel: The normalization of relations with Israel will begin after the achievement of the first phase Israeli withdrawal; that is, after 9 months from the ratification of the treaty and the complete withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line--a line which will cover three-fourths of the Sinai area.

2. [as received] After a period that might extend to 6 months from the completion of the withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line, Egypt will enter negotiations with Israel to discuss agreements between the two countries on normalizing relations between them in the various fields separately. There will not be a definite period of time to end these negotiations. We hope that the two sides will start these negotiations with good intentions. Naturally, the progress of the negotiations will depend on current developments.

Egypt has obtained a definite pledge from the U.S. President that the United States will continue to play the role of a full partner and to exert concerted efforts to reach a just solution to the Palestinian problem. This is to fulfill the promise made by President Carter himself in his speech to you on 10 March 1979.

Mr Speaker of the People's Assembly, brothers and sisters. The government is certain that these documents submitted to you for approval--documents that were approved by the Council of Ministers on 4 April 1979--are in full agreement with the Egyptian and Arab aims, which the Arab nation approved unanimously in the Arab summit resolutions, foremost among which are the Rabat summit resolutions. These aims are also commensurate with UN Security Council Resolutions 242 of 1967 and 338 of 1973. These resolutions have been agreed to by the Arab states in stages and over the past 12 years. Egypt had the courage and wisdom to accept these resolutions the moment they were issued, and the Arab states followed suit thereafter.

In this regard, the treaty and all the agreements linked to it--in form and substance--will accomplish the following:

1. The comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, and to consider this as a principle which applies to the situation between Israel and the other Arab countries in implementation of UN Resolution 242. Thus, Egypt shall regain three-fourths of Sinai within a period of 9 months, including the oil wells and the town of Al-'Arish, which we will restore within the 2 months.

2. The recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and to begin taking the appropriate measures and practical arrangements to restore those rights and translate them into reality by establishing full self-rule to the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza within a transitional period of 5 years, during which negotiations will take place in which the elected representatives of the Palestinian people will take part to determine their future.

3. To underline and stress the link between reaching a settlement on the Egyptian front and solving the Palestinian cause. This will be done by the following:

A. Signing the supplementary [tamili] agreement regarding the West Bank and Gaza on the same day the Egyptian-Israeli treaty was signed and between the same parties.

B. Egypt will take part in all the negotiations on the Palestinian people's future. Egypt's delegation can include, in the first stage of the negotiations, a number of the brother Palestinians. Egypt will also be there next to the Palestinian delegation, which will be elected from the West Bank and Gaza inhabitants, in the advanced stages of the negotiations.

C. To set up a definite schedule for the various stages of the negotiations, the elections, the establishment of the national Palestinian authority and the withdrawal of the Israeli forces whether outside the West Bank and Gaza or to certain limited positions to be agreed on by the concerned parties.

4. Not to harm Egypt's Arab commitments and Egypt's national historic place in the Arab nation. Not to allow Israel to claim that it has special relations with Egypt.

5. To emphasize that security arrangements in Sinai are temporary.

6. There are still some final points that I want to deal with and emphasize the following:

A. The size and armaments of the Egyptian armed forces which will be positioned in Sinai, in accordance with the treaty, are considered sufficient and meet the requirements of defending Egypt's eastern border in light of the peace circumstances. However, the Egyptian military presence in Sinai even during normal circumstances would not have exceeded the current size and armaments.

B. The principle of sending UN peace forces to the area has been agreed on since 1956. Egypt, within the framework of the treaty, stressed its right to choose the countries that will join the UN peace forces. Egypt insists that none of the five superpowers will be among the countries sending troops to the UN peace force in Egypt. This is according to the principles of Egypt, which had the honor of establishing the nonalined movement.

C. Permission to allow Israeli ships to pass through the Suez Canal is considered a natural result of ending the state of war between Egypt and Israel and is in accordance with the agreements of Constantinople in 1888 organizing navigation in the canal.

In this regard I must point out that Israel's ships and commerce have been passing through the Tiran straits since the 1956 war. Moreover, Israeli goods were also passing through the Suez Canal on board foreign ships until the closure of the canal in 1967.

Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters. It has thus become clear to you and to our militant people through you that Egypt has managed to accomplish the objectives it defined from the first moment of the president's initiative. We did not and will never let the obstacles impede our march toward achieving the just and overall peace for our Arab nation.

Egypt's will for a just peace was manifested when millions of Egyptians went to the streets on 31 March 1979 to receive Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and the delegation accompanying him upon their return to Cairo, carrying the peace treaty. I can only say that this thronging popular historic phenomenon is a clear and sincere renewal of the pledge of allegiance to President Anwar as-Sadat, to his objectives both inside and outside, and to the confident and strong course he is pursuing along the road of these objectives.

Mr Speaker, before concluding my statement, I would like to stress the following three points, which I consider extremely important:

First.

1. The results that we achieved are only the beginning of the road to achieving the just, comprehensive and lasting peace that we desire and that is also desired by the Arab nation. We know that the remaining portion of the road is hard, difficult and long. I mean here the forthcoming negotiations, due 1 month after the exchange of the ratification of this treaty, in order to accomplish the establishment of Palestinian national authority in the West Bank and Gaza within the framework of full Palestinian self-rule.

2. The Egyptian stand in this regard is clear and definite and is summed up in the following:

A. The transitional period, which was agreed upon between Egypt and Israel during which the Palestinians will obtain full self-rule, is aimed at guaranteeing the peaceful transfer of authority to the sons of the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank. It must also assist the Palestinian people in building and developing their cultural, economic and political institutions and organizations and in expressing themselves so as to achieve the determination of their fate, with the participation and support of Egypt.

B. Egypt believes in the need and right of the Palestinian National Council to enjoy all the jurisdictions of full self-rule during the transitional period.

C. Egypt believes in the need to hold elections in order to elect representatives of the Palestinian people, under international supervision, in order to avoid leaving the matter to be determined separately or collectively by Israel or Egypt.

D. Egypt holds that the West Bank region covers all the territories, towns and villages occupied by Israel in 1967, including East Jerusalem. Furthermore, all citizens of the West Bank and Gaza who were resident before or after 1967 shall have the right to participate in the election of the Palestinian self-government, including the residents of East Jerusalem, which will be the base for this government.

E. Egypt considers the existence of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza to be illegitimate. It does not grant Israel or the Israeli residents of these settlements any right. Egypt will support the Palestinian representatives in their demands to stop the building or fleshing out of these settlements.

F. Egypt's position concerning Jerusalem is clear in the letter that President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat addressed to the U.S. President on 17 September 1978, which can be summed up in the necessity of the return of Arab sovereignty over East Jerusalem.

3. Egypt, which has done its utmost in defending the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and has suffered more than any man can bear, affirms its adherence to the need to achieve the Palestinians' legitimate rights during the negotiations of the next phase. From our position of responsibility in the Egyptian People's Assembly, we pledge to our Palestinian brothers and the other Arab peoples that we will continue the struggle to achieve the Palestinians' rights and to regain Arab sovereignty over East Jerusalem. We will fight in the confidence that we can secure all Arab rights through the maturity of our leadership and people, the strength of our faith and our complete conviction that thanks to cohesion and solidarity we are stronger than all the attempts to obstruct the process of just and comprehensive peace, which will enable the peoples of our region to enjoy their resources and achieve progress in security and safety.

In these decisive and historic moments, I cannot but address myself to our brothers and sisters in the occupied Palestinian territory of the West Bank and Gaza and the rest of the heroic Palestinian people everywhere and tell them: Let us try this new path that Egypt has followed before you and that has borne fruit. Let us try the path of negotiations and the path of just peaceful settlement. I can assure you all that you will not lose anything that you now possess. As usual, Egypt will stand by you, because this is the will of history and the will of the Egyptian Arab people.

All honest Palestinians are called upon today to rise to the level of responsibility. They are also called upon, if they believe in their right to self-determination and their right to establish their own national authority on their land, to try the new path we are offering them for their welfare and the welfare of their sons and of the entire region's peoples. We hope that our brothers will be careful not to be provoked by the intransigent Israeli statements and stands. The experience of the negotiations, coupled with world public opinion that supports the Palestinian rights, has proved and will prove the success of the Arab negotiator in regaining the usurped rights.

Mr Speaker, brothers and sisters. The second point I consider of the highest importance is that Egypt is most concerned with Arab solidarity. Arab solidarity is not measured by maneuvers and outbiddings but by continued, intensive and sincere efforts to realize the pan-Arab aims within the strategy agreed to by the peoples of our nation. The rejectionist stand is the easiest, but it is the least productive and least able to achieve our hopes and aims. The Egyptian stand is the stand of continued struggle with all available means to overcome the obstacles that prevented the achievement of aims and aspirations.

Those who complicate issues and participate in meetings that are alien to Arab legitimacy and make decisions that are devoid of logic, illegal and against Arab interests must be held responsible for the results of their actions, not only before the Egyptian people, who have sacrificed and will always sacrifice for the sake of the Arab causes, but before their own people as well.

There is also the third and last point that I need to discuss today with the representatives of the Egyptian people. This concerns the Egyptian views on the U.S. role in the region. The experience of the difficult negotiations entered into by Egypt during the past 1 and 1/2 years have proven the truth of Egypt's evaluation and conviction that the United States had the ability to effectively achieve an honorable and comprehensive settlement to the Middle Eastern dispute. Hence, Egypt has been working on the escalation of U.S. participation and the reaffirmation of the U.S. commitment to the comprehensive settlement since the October War. The Egyptian efforts bore fruit, and full U.S. participation was realized. These efforts were crowned with the peace treaty, which assigned the United States definite commitments as a full partner in the peace and in its stability and entrenchment.

Egypt knew that Israel was attempting to obtain definite guarantees from the United States that could give it more security after its complete withdrawal from Sinai. Despite all this, on 25 March 1979, 1 day before the signing of the treaty, the Egyptian Government learned of the existence of a memorandum detailing a U.S.-Israeli understanding that included an additional U.S. guarantee--a guarantee that is in addition to the peace treaty and its appendices and that points out a U.S. role in case Egypt violates the agreement's provisions.

On learning of this memorandum, the Egyptian negotiator made a careful study of the memorandum and we realized that it was not founded on sound bases, that it did not serve any useful purpose and that it was contrary to the provisions and appendices of the peace treaty.

I sent two letters to the U.S. secretary of state in which I reiterated the Egyptian position and our views on the U.S. role. I said that Egypt will not consider itself committed to this Israeli-U.S. memorandum or to any guarantees to which it is not a party and about which it was not consulted. Egypt held that this memorandum was illegal, null and void and would have no relation to or any effect on Egypt under any circumstances. I have given instructions to the Foreign Ministry to submit the text of these letters to the secretariat of the council in order to be placed with the copies of the peace treaty documents and to be presented to you.

Mr President, brothers and sisters. Our relations with the United States and the other superpowers in the world are based on mutual respect, adherence to nonintervention in our country's domestic affairs, and faith in cooperation among countries and nations for the sake of achieving progress and peace for our area's peoples.

Egypt adheres to the nonalined policy. Egypt had the honor of taking the initiative, of commencing its idea and philosophy. Egypt rejects the policies of bases and military alliances. Egypt not only endeavors to achieve stability, progress and prosperity for its people, but for the peoples of its area as well. Egypt adheres to the right of all the area's peoples to set up the political, economic and social systems that will achieve their hopes without the intervention of any foreign side.

In return, Egypt absolutely rejects the attempt of any regional or world force to threaten its domestic or foreign status. Egypt will always be prepared to confront and wipe out any threat, regardless of its source. Egypt will continue to be a support for all Arab people and will help and assist every Arab government that worked with us for the sake of the supreme Arab interests.

Brothers and sisters, members of the People's Assembly. While experiencing these honorable and historic moments in which the Egyptian people's struggle is being crowned with the passage from the stage of war and confrontation--a stage that lasted for more than 30 years--to the era of peace and stability for them and the peoples of their nation, I would like to greet the souls of our innocent martyrs and our strugglers both inside and outside the armed forces who exerted efforts and sweat and shed their blood for the sake of raising aloft the banner of right. Their struggle during, before and after the glorious October War was the one that caused the mighty force to erupt through which, under the leadership of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, we managed to bring to you the first fruit of the dignified and just peace. We will protect it against all storms, so that it will bear all its fruit and so that its prosperity might overwhelm the entire Arab nation.

I am fully confident that the esteemed People's Assembly will discuss this historic treaty with the objectiveness and importance it deserves. I also hope that it will bless it and support it. My colleagues, the ministers and I will be prepared to discuss all the details with you and to answer all your questions.

Peace be with you and may God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY TO DISCUSS PEACE TREATY 9 APRIL

JN052033 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 5 April--At its session this evening under the chairmanship of Dr Sufi Abu Talib, the People's Assembly decided to refer the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, its appendices, the supplementary [at-tamili] agreement and the statements by the prime minister and the foreign minister to a joint committee comprising the Foreign Relations, Arab Affairs and National Security Committees of the People's Assembly, so that a report may be prepared on this to be submitted to the Assembly.

The joint committee will begin its work on Saturday. The Assembly is scheduled to begin discussing the agreement and its appendices in light of the committee's report on Monday.

LEBANESE AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT RETURNS TO CAIRO

JN051701 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 5 April--Lebanese Ambassador to Egypt Husayn al-'Abdallah returned to Cairo this afternoon.

BAHRAINI AMBASSADOR LEAVES CAIRO FOR HOME

JN051702 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1702 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 5 April--Bahraini Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd al-'Aziz (?ash-Shamalan) left Cairo for home this afternoon.

KHALIL SENDS LETTER TO ISLAMIC CONGRESS SECRETARY

JN051820 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 5 April--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has declared that the attempt to embroil the Islamic Congress in the Arab dispute--which is based on a misunderstanding of the Egyptian peace treaty--is a threat to the congress' solidarity and effectiveness and is detrimental to its objectives and principles.

In a letter to Ahmadu Karim Jay, secretary general of the Islamic Congress, briefing him on developments in the Middle East situation in light of the peace treaty, Dr Khalil calls on the Islamic Congress to play its role in supporting the Islamic brothers' march and in saving Islamic solidarity from what is being designed against it.

The text of Dr Mustafa Khalil's letter to the Islamic Congress secretary general is as follows:

No doubt you have followed with due interest the recent developments on the basis of which it has been agreed to bring about Israel's total withdrawal from the occupied Egyptian territories and the establishment of Palestinian self-government at a later stage--on the road to regaining the Paletinian people's legitimate rights--in accordance with the Islamic Congress Charter and resolutions. Egypt has shared in drafting these resolutions and in calling for the realization of the objectives to which these resolutions aspire, as I explained to you in my detailed letter dated 19 March 1979.

I would like to refer to news reports about decisions made outside the Arab League framework by certain fraternal states at a meeting held recently in Baghdad. At this meeting, accusations were leveled against Egypt that are incompatible with solidarity and brotherhood or with reality and what has been achieved in these difficult circumstances, of which you are aware.

In my previous letter to you, I pointed out that Egypt was able to put the Palestinian issue on the road to solution, through agreed upon measures and a definite timetable, in order to destroy the attempts aimed at maintaining the status quo in the Palestinian territories, perpetuating the Israeli occupation of these territories and continuing the measures intended to change the demographic and geographic status of these territories, particularly in Jerusalem. Egypt was also able to regain all its national, soil occupied in 1967 in accordance with an agreement that is considered an important step toward a comprehensive settlement and a part thereof. We have also rejected any partial or separate settlement that isolates the Palestinian issue or denies the existence of the Palestinian people and ignores their rights.

All this has achieved important progress on the way to an overall solution and has confidently paved the way for the Arab people to regain their rights. The following three points have become uncontested matters upon which the final settlement must be based:

1. Resolution 242, upon which the Egyptian-Israeli agreement is based, provides for the withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 to the international lines. Israel has fought this for the past 11 years.

2. The contents of the agreement constitutes a strong and sound basis to be applied to the other Syrian and Palestinian occupied territories; namely, full Israeli withdrawal from these territories and agreement on specific, mutual and provisional security measures.

3. Rejection of the Israeli claim to have the right to establish settlements in the occupied territories. Israel has succumbed to this in its official agreement to evacuate the settlements and withdraw its settlers and installations.

Accordingly, we were very surprised at the recommendations that were adopted by the aforementioned meeting. These recommendations were aimed, among other things, at involving the Islamic Congress in this Arab dispute, an act based on misunderstanding, showing no appreciation of the consequences resulting from the freezing of the state of no peace, no war and the continuation of the Israeli occupation of the Arab and Palestinian land and Jerusalem.

Furthermore, I would like to inform you that Egypt believes that the Baghdad resolutions have deviated from the Arab League Charter, constituting a serious violation of its articles and an aggression against its objectives. Furthermore, involving the Islamic Congress in this serious subject threatens the congress, its solidarity and effectiveness, and harms its objectives and principles.

I am confident that you will place the interests of Islam and Muslims above all considerations. I hope that you will play your role, which has always received our respect, in mending this rift and pushing matters toward saving Islamic solidarity and the march of Islamic brotherhood and its aims. God is our supporter.

SINAI RESIDENTS STAGE PEACE PROCESSION IN CAIRO

JN051855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 April--Sinai residents held a mammoth public rally at the temporary premises of the Sinai Governorate offices at Hilmiyat az-Zaytun, during which they declared their support and solid backing for President Anwar as-Sadat in his struggle to build the edifice of just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

After the rally, the Sinai residents staged a huge procession comprising 10,000 people representing the Al-'Arish, Bi'r al-'Abd and Ash-Shaykh Zuwayd areas of Sinai. The procession was led by Muhammad Husayn Shawkat, governor of Northern Sinai; Subhi Musallam 'Abd al-'Aal, secretary general of the Democratic National Party in Sinai; and executive and popular leaderships and tribal chieftains.

The Sinai residents marched through Cairo streets holding placards expressing support for President as-Sadat, waving olive branches and releasing doves of peace. The marchers proceeded to 'Abidin Palace, where their representatives signed the visitors' book.

NDP COMMITTEE SUPPORTS REJECTION OF BAGHDAD RESOLUTIONS

JN052029 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 5 April--The Arab and Foreign Relations Committee of the National Democratic Party [NDP] met today under Hasan Kamil, reporter of the committee, and announced its support of the government's decision that holds the resolution to transfer the Arab League headquarters and its specialized organizations from Cairo illegal.

The committee underlined that those resolutions are illegal, illegitimate and violate the Arab League Charter.

The committee also discussed the current Arab situation in light of the signing of the peace treaty, reviewed the Baghdad meeting's resolutions, and considered the NDP measures and steps necessary to face those resolutions.

AFP: LEFTIST ARRESTED FOR OPPOSING TREATY

NC041348 Paris AFP in English 1332 GMT 4 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 4 April (AFP)--An Egyptian leftist has been arrested for expressing opposition to the visit to Egypt of Israeli Premier Menahem Begin, the Progressive Unionist Rally announced here today.

A communique from the leftist party, which holds two seats out of the 360 in the Egyptian parliament, said that Muhammad Isma'il Amir, from the town of Kafr Shukr on the Nile delta, had first been taken to prison and then led back to his home, handcuffed and wearing a prisoner's uniform, to "aid in searching his residence."

The leftist party appealed for condemnation from Egyptian and international organizations over the alleged "bad treatment" suffered by Mr. Amir.

INFORMATION MINISTRY SUSPENDS COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN

JN051938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--The Ministry of Information today decided to suspend TARIQ ASH-SHA'B, mouthpiece of the Iraqi Communist Party, for 30 days effective today.

The ministry has sent a letter to the paper saying: Due to your repeated violations and in accordance with Article 23 of the Law of Publications No 206 of 1968, we have decided to suspend the paper for 30 days effective today.

HUSAYN CABLES BREZHNEV ON FRIENDSHIP TREATY ANNIVERSARY

JN051529 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1510 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman and acting president of the Republic, has asserted that Iraq, which has chosen a line of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, is committed to the principled stand necessary to proceed with this line.

This came in a cable Saddam Husayn sent today to Leonid Brezhnev, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman; and Aleksey Kosygin, USSR Council of Ministers chairman, on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the signing of the bilateral treaty of friendship and cooperation in Baghdad on 9 April 1972.

The cable reads: On the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between our two countries, I am pleased to confirm to you that Iraq, which has chosen the line of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, is committed on the principled stand necessary to proceed with the course of friendship and cooperation, in accordance with the principles of national sovereignty, nonintervention in domestic affairs, mutual benefit and joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism and all kinds of racial discrimination and aggression.

The course of relations between our two countries has been successful and fruitful over the past 7 years, covering all the political, economic and cultural fields. These relations have been inspired by these principles, which have been proved sound and essential by experiment.

Please accept our heartfelt congratulations and sincere best wishes. We wish you continued health and the friendly Soviet people progress and prosperity.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman and acting president of the republic.

PRESIDENT CONGRATULATES KHOMEYNI ON ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

JN051602 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has sent a congratulatory cable to Ayatollah Khomeyni on the proclamation of the Iranian Islamic Republic. The cable reads:

On the occasion of the proclamation of the Islamic Republic, I am pleased to send to you on behalf of the Iraqi Government and people and in my own name our heartfelt congratulations.

We wish you and the friendly neighboring Iranian people continued success. We hope the new republic will do much good for the friendly Iranian people and will consolidate Iran's role in the service of peace and justice in the world and in the setting up of the closest relations of friendship and neighborliness with the Arab countries in general and Iraq in particular.

NATIONAL COMMAND MEMBER RECEIVES PFLP LEADER

JN051747 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and officer in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office in the National Command, met here today with Bassam Abu Sharif, Political Bureau member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. They discussed the current situation in the area and ways of confronting the enemy designs. They also discussed the relations between the party and front.

Abu Sharif Leaves Baghdad

JN061012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 6 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 6 April--Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad for Beirut this morning following a 5-day visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA, Abu Sharif said that during the visit the delegation held several meetings with Ba'th Party officials on means of coordination and cooperation to confront the treasonous steps and the Zionist and imperialist machinations in the area. Abu Sharif said that the discussions were held in a positive atmosphere and with a high feeling of responsibility in confronting the dangers threatening the Arab nation. He affirmed that the Arab masses and their liberation movement are capable of repulsing these dangers and scoring victory.

IRAQ FREEZES MONEY TRANSFERS TO ARAB FIRMS IN CAIRO

JN051311 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1252 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 5 April--It was decided here today to stop all financial transfers which Iraq pays to joint Arab companies and organizations which have headquarters in Cairo. A responsible source at the Ministry of Finance said that immediate measures are currently being taken to freeze financial transfers and contributions paid by Iraq to such joint Arab companies, firms and organizations. This decision is in accordance with the resolutions of the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference which ended in Baghdad last Saturday.

KING HUSAYN INTERVIEWED ON PEACE TREATY, MIDEAST SITUATION

ID051529 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 5 Apr 79 pp 1-2 ID

[Interview granted by King Husayn to Jihad al-Khazin and 'Irfan Nizam ad-Din in London--date not given]

[Text] [Question] At this critical juncture through which the Arab nation is passing, attention is being focused on you in order to hear your views regarding the present situation following the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, the reasons for opposing it and the harm it has done the Arab cause.

[Answer] In fact, I have been and always will be only a soldier of the Arab nation, and with God's help, both loyal to those who have preceded us on the long road, and caring for the Arab generations that will come after us. What has happened so far has surprised us and has extremely distressed us, because it is contrary to logic and to the concepts that we have learned--that we are one nation that is supposed to face dangers and challenges as one and build as one.

In 1967 we fought the battle alongside sisterly Egypt, although we had great apprehensions about the outcome. But we had to fulfill our duty as a member of the Arab League and an Arab country committed to the joint defense pact. As events developed, we entrusted Egypt with command of the armed forces, and what happened then is well known. The same thing happened to other Arab brothers who faced with us the danger that threatened part of our Arab nation and the attack that was launched on Egypt in particular.

We all are seeking peace, but a just, honorable and durable peace acceptable to the generations that come after us. In our view, peace is that which restores to the Palestinians their legitimate rights in the Palestinian Arab lands, that which pulls out the occupation forces from all the occupied territories, that which would restore Arab sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. No individual, regardless of his position and responsibility, has the right to dispose of Jerusalem, to which hundreds of millions of people are no less attached than we are.

The peace we want is one that gives the Palestinian people the right they have been deprived of for many many years. This is indeed what we have been seeking to achieve. But we have been surprised by the so-called Egyptian initiative, by President as-Sadat's visit to Israel, and to Jerusalem in particular while under occupation. When we heard his speech there we said: He has chosen this road. Perhaps he will--and naturally should--remain committed to all that he said regarding a comprehensive solution and the restoration of lands, rights and Jerusalem.

On the other hand, we thought that, since this has happened, the world might realize that we are indeed seeking peace. Matters then progressed until we were surprised by the Camp David accords. Events then developed rapidly toward the signing of this treaty. We realize that Israel's aim has always been to consolidate its occupation of the land and to annex it, foremost of which is Jerusalem. It can do so if it takes Egypt out of the equation, out of the problem and out of the battle.

This operation--the operation of dividing the Arabs--is aimed at weakening them further and reducing their chances of achieving their goals. It appears to me that Israel has succeeded in this, regardless of all considerations.

This situation in fact compels us to face the challenge; that is, those of us in the rest of the Arab homeland--the majority--must stand fast and build our intrinsic power. We must feel that there is real danger threatening the Arab identify. These dangers and challenges should elevate us to the required level. We should deal with each other with mutual respect and share responsibility in fulfilling our duties. We must also speak to the world with the language of one who wants peace, but a comprehensive peace acceptable to all.

I believe that the Baghdad summit and the recent meetings indicate to us that, God willing, we are on the right path. We have great hope for the future although we do not belittle the magnitude of the challenge and the gravity of the danger.

[Question] Your Majesty, do you believe the Baghdad resolutions are adequate to confront the danger?

[Answer] This was the minimum that could be achieved. In fact, what I have always sought is to achieve Arab unamimity--an Arab agreement. Thank God this has been achieved.

[Question] Certain quarters, including the United States, criticize the opposing Arab countries for not offering an alternative or alternatives. What is your answer to this?

[Answer] One of the principal causes of my distress has in fact been our inability to build an intrinsic Arab power in relation to events, so that we can face up to the dangers and challenges. There is a trend at present toward building such power and cooperating on a sound basis. This is our concern in regard to the Arab homeland. It is a good starting point.

On the other hand, I believe that we have been on the road to a comprehensive peace. There was an agreement to send a unified Arab delegation to Geneva. There was also a Soviet-U.S. agreement on a Geneva meeting to implement resolutions 242 and 338. But the process went astray, until we reached the events that have brought us all the ensuing consequences.

The question we are asking the United States is: What are the long-term goals? What are the goals of any effort or endeavour made after the passage of so many years since the Security Council resolution was issued? We believe that this treaty is very far from Resolution 242 and its provisions regarding the Palestinian problem. But they refuse to answer our question clearly, saying that they cannot commit themselves to what they cannot implement or participate in implementing. This logic is quite different from what we heard when we accepted Resolution 242 in late 1967.

I believe that they, in the United States, have no alternatives to offer. This is because they are portraying as something great the little that has been achieved. They have given Israel such guarantees and pledges of continued military and material support as make me doubt their ability to influence Israel in any way that would make it adopt a policy leading to its withdrawal from the occupied territories and the establishment of real peace in the area. It is they in the United States and not us who have no alternatives to offer.

[Question] Your attitude toward the autonomy plan is well known. Have any new contacts been held with you in this regard?

[Answer] We have from the beginning clearly and frankly defined our attitude toward this plan and this question, especially after we put to the United States several questions regarding its intentions on the Palestinian problem and the long-term goals that must be achieved on the road to peace. But we have not received any convincing answers.

[Question] Are there any contacts with the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza in order to back their steadfastness and support them?

[Answer] Naturally. In principle, we are for anything that may serve our kinfolk and brothers there, and which strengthens their steadfastness so that we will together reach the situation where we can restore the rights to their owners. We are against anything that lends legitimacy to occupation and means the continued occupation of any part of the Arab land.

[Question] Recently you said that Jordan is being subjected to certain pressures by the United States. Can you tell us the nature of such pressure and their effect on U.S.-Jordanian relations?

[Answer] In fact, Jordanian-U.S. relations are now passing through a very critical stage, the like of which they have never known before. Naturally this is quite clear, especially since we have never before faced the situation we are now facing in the area as a whole. We continually hear something to the effect that the U.S. administration, the two houses of Congress and the American people would take a satisfactory view of Jordan if it played the role they believe it should play at this stage or at subsequent stages. This naturally means that things would change completely if Jordan took a different attitude.

In fact, we only act according to our conscience and to what we feel to be in the interest of the Arab people and the Arab cause. We cannot claim that we are capable of placing ourselves in a position of confrontation with the United States and all the other powers. We are aware of our size. But in no way will we give up an inch of Arab land or an iota of Arab rights, regardless of the consequences. We live and die only once. We live loyal to the principles of those who preceded us on the long road, and loyal to the interests of the Arab generations, and we shall do the impossible.

[Question] Have there been any new contacts between yourself and President Carter since the signing of the treaty?

[Answer] Not recently. The last time such contact took place was during Brzezinski's visit to Amman.

[Question] Has a date been fixed for your visit to Washington?

[Answer] It was proposed that it take place in May, but so far nothing has been fixed, nothing final has been decided.

[Question] It has recently been reported that at the coming stage you will be speaking on behalf of Jordan as well as the Palestinian people, so that the voice of this people can reach all international quarters. Has there been any agreement in this regard?

[Answer] Naturally there is complete coordination between us within the Arab group and with the PLO in particular. At this stage our discussions have not gone beyond coordination and cooperation--the best there can be in the service of the Arab cause and the Palestinian cause in particular. We are committed to the Rabat resolutions and to all subsequent resolutions.

[Question] Has the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog led to the desired results, and are further steps being taken in this regard?

[Answer] The results are very good. They are extremely encouraging and there is great hope.

[Question] Following the treaty and the Iranian events, a change in the balance of power has occurred in the area. How did this affect Jordan and the area?

[Answer] We have pointed out several times that the Arab area is threatened. It is an important and strategic area, as well as an area of conflict. Attempts are being made which, we feel, are endangering the Arab identity and the Arab existence. But, thank God, there is also a great deal of awareness and realization of such dangers. Consequently, now Arab agreement and cooperation can be seen. This is a good start, which we hope will lead to the best of results.

[Question] Do you believe that there is need to convene a new Arab summit to confront the dangers?

[Answer] A meeting would be good, especially if it is a comprehensive meeting that would bring all the Arabs together. We are in favor and support such a meeting. There is no definite date for it, but it was agreed in the Baghdad summit resolutions to hold an annual summit in any case.

[Question] Are you going to continue your Arab tour and visit Kuwait and the gulf countries?

[Answer] God willing; that is, if we have the opportunity in view of the current changes. We are in contact with all our brothers and find it very useful to meet with them continuously to discuss these changes and what must be done in their regard.

[Question] Jordan is now regarded as the country most exposed to pressures and confrontation. Do you believe that all the forms of Arab aid are adequate for Jordan's continued steadfastness?

[Answer] We are playing our role and duty in defending the heart of the Arab nation. The Baghdad summit has put us in a new position, and has contributed to strengthening Jordan and the rest of the confrontation states, as well as the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and elsewhere. With regard to steadfastness and what it requires, we believe that the Arabs have not defaulted in their duties, nor did we fail to take the maximum possible measures to confront the danger.

We must do our duty, and we believe that our brothers, in facing their fate and destiny, are also doing their duty at present and will continue to do it in the future in a different manner from that of the past. Everything now is clear.

[Question] Did you advise President as-Sadat against what he has done?

[Answer] Of course. I visited him after his visit to Jerusalem, and I received a message from him before he left for Camp David. I answered it in detail. Despite all this, the surprise came about. His attitude is quite different from before.

[Question] What is your explanation for this?

[Answer] I can find no suitable explanation.

[Question] Are there any plans to strengthen the eastern front?

[Answer] Studies are being made to satisfy everybody's needs. There is also room for long-term coordination which would give us the best results for building intrinsic Arab power on a sound basis in order to face the danger. Personally, I am very satisfied with everything that has been done.

[Question] Do you believe that the policy which President as-Sadat has adopted will continue?

[Answer] No. We shall build our strength and organize our affairs. We shall make the world feel the need to reconsider the problem. I doubt that President as-Sadat will succeed in his attempt, because the Egyptian people are an Arab and Muslim people. I cannot imagine that they will be less than any other people or any other community in the Arab homeland or in the Islamic world, particularly regarding Jerusalem.

[Question] Would you like to address through ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT an appeal to the Arab nation and to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza defining the future path?

[Answer] We pin great hopes on them. They have suffered and continue to suffer a great deal. We pin our hopes on them and on the unity of ranks and their firmness. We shall do the impossible to support them with our maximum capability and resources. We are proud of them.

Regarding the brothers in the great Arab homeland, I would say that we must shun emotionalism and make long-term plans on the basis of our belief in our cause. We must resolve to achieve our goals and establish our relations on the basis of mutual respect, and joint and continuing action in the public interest, as well as in the interest of building our intrinsic power. We must also maintain contact with the whole world in order to defend our cause. We are facing a threat not only to ourselves but also to future Arab generations. We hope to be up to the challenge, and we shall do the impossible in order to stand on the side of our brothers to defend the Arab nation, the Arab identity, the Arab cause and the Arab right.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN SWORN IN AS REGENT

JN051328 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan was sworn in at the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today as regent until his majesty returns to the homeland. The ceremony was held before His Highness Prince Muhammad, the prime minister and cabinet.

Royal decree was issued naming Crown Prince Hasan as the regent as of 5 April. Attending the ceremony was Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zayd.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT'S PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEECH

JN061006 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Apr 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today headlined "Between Two Statements," AD-DUSTUR says: Two days ago His Majesty King Husayn made a statement to British television. His statement was a solemn and objective answer to the current question posed in both the Arab and international arenas. This question is: What happens after the signing of the separate peace between Egypt and Israel?

Yesterday, President as-Sadat addressed the Egyptian People's Assembly in defense of the treaty. Many people had hoped that this defense would concentrate on dispersing the Arab fears that resulted from the treaty, or on stressing Egypt's insistence that a just and comprehensive solution of the Arab issue be a condition for the continuation of the Egyptian peace with Israel. Many people had hoped that As-Sadat would explain the obvious contradiction between what he himself is saying about the establishment of a Palestinian state, and what Begin is saying about Israel's insistence that there will be no Palestinian state in the present or future. It was also hoped that As-Sadat would explain the contradiction between what both of them are saying about the future of Jerusalem.

The Egyptian president was supposed to make these and other points the focus of his speech. Regrettably, however, the Egyptian president preferred to launch a strange attack against the Arabs opposed to the treaty.

AD-DUSTUR continues: King Husayn stressed to the world that no pressure whatsoever will dissuade Jordan from its stand of adhering to a just, comprehensive and lasting peace. King Husayn stressed that Jordan will not participate in any efforts whose results are not known. Jordan will not participate in any efforts which will not definitely result in complete Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory, above all Jerusalem, and which will not enable the Palestinian people to determine their future freely on their land.

King Husayn also reminded the world of the fact that the Israeli-Egyptian treaty does not solve the issue. This remark clearly means that the responsibility of the world community does not end with the separate peace between Egypt and Israel.

King Husayn explained to the Arabs with complete frankness that the Baghdad resolutions are the beginning, and that building intrinsic Arab power remains the essential basis for unified Arab action and for proceeding on the path of struggle to regain our rights. Thus King Husayn crystalized the vision of the stage following the treaty; that is, emphasis on firmness, action and confidence in the future.

AL-HUSS RETURNS FROM BAGHDAD, COMMENTS ON TALKS

NC052210 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut from Baghdad at 1800 today after an official 1-day visit to the Iraqi capital, during which he had talks with Iraqi Revolution Command Council Deputy Chairman Saddam Husayn and a number of Iraqi officials.

At Beirut airport, where Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman and a number of military and political personalities were waiting to welcome him, Prime Minister al-Huss made a statement on the results of his meeting with Saddam Husayn. He said: We discussed with Iraqi Revolution Command Council Deputy Chairman Saddam Husayn the situation in the Arab area following the signing of the Arab-Israeli treaty, and the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference. We exchanged views on the conference. Al-Huss added: I reviewed the well-known dimensions of the question of the south, and discussed with him the position of the Arab Deterrent Forces following the recent developments in these forces. I requested the support of fraternal Iraq in all these matters. Saddam Husayn was completely responsive to and understanding of the Lebanese position. There is no doubt that my visit to Baghdad was very fruitful and positive in light of the subjects we discussed.

Asked about the resumption of the pumping of Iraqi oil to Tripoli, Prime Minister al-Huss said: I discussed this subject with Iraqi Revolution Command Council Deputy Chairman Saddam Husayn, who expressed Iraq's readiness to consider seriously the possibility of resuming oil pumping after the technical aspects of the subject have been studied. After this meeting, the prime minister added, I met with Planning Minister 'Adnan Husayn and discussed the same subject with him.

Prime Minister al-Huss then went to his residence in Ad-Dawhah, where he had a telephone conversation with President Ilyas Sarkis and briefed him on the results of his visit and talks with Iraqi officials.

VOL REPORTS ISRAELI MILITARY MOVES ON BORDER

NC051912 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 5 Apr 79 NC

[Excerpts] In the security sphere, a security source at Beirut international airport has disclosed that four aliens, who, it has been learned, are explosive experts, arrived at Beirut airport Monday morning and took a land rover which was waiting for them. There were two armed men in the vehicle.

Reports received in Beirut have indicated that Israeli military measures have been taken on the northeastern Israeli front, along the Syrian and Jordanian borders.

PRESIDENT SARKIS RECEIVES LEBANESE BA'TH PARTY LEADER

JN051655 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Apr 79 JN

[Text] At 1300 today, President Ha'iz al-Asad received Comrade 'Asim Qansuh, secretary general of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon. Talks during the meeting centered on current Lebanese developments and the Arab situation.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT'S PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEECH

JN060923 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 6 Apr 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its main commentary entitled Remarks on As-Sadat's Speech, the newspaper TISHRIN says: Those who brought themselves to listen to As-Sadat while he was speaking in detail before the People's Assembly did not discover any secrets in his words. His remarks did not help the Arabs change their views or stands toward his policy and stands.

What As-Sadat said about the Arabs was a campaign of falsehoods, lies, distortion, swearwords and insults similar in baseness to the logic and falsehoods of Israeli radio. One would need hundreds of pages to refute the falsehoods and lies about the Arabs which constituted As-Sadat's entire speech. However, the Arab nation's memory is strong, and it can distinguish between lies and facts.

TISHRIN adds: The conclusion one arrives at from As-Sadat's remarks about the Arab leaders and people is that he is proceeding with his set plan to separate Egypt from its Arab nation, and to create hostility between Egypt and its Arab brothers by arousing anti-Arab sentiments, inciting regionalism and attempting to put national Egyptian feelings in confrontation with Egypt's pan-Arab affiliations. He is trying to depict the Arabs as Egypt's enemies, as conspirators against Egypt, and as the cause behind all Egypt's economic, political and social difficulties.

At the same time, As-Sadat did not bother to say one single word about Israel's aggression, designs and crimes against Egypt and the Arab nation.

As-Sadat's role of attempting to create hostility between Egypt and the Arab nation is part of the process of establishing the U.S.-Israeli-As-Sadat alliance against the Arab nation. It is a blatant effort to justify the policy of subservience to the United States, and that of capitulation before and alliance with the Zionist enemy.

ALGERIA

DEFEATIST POLICY OF EGYPT'S AS-SADAT CENSURED

LD052106 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The head of the Egyptian regime today reiterated his determination to continue his defeatist policy, claiming that the treaty he signed with terrorist Menahem Begin, head of the Tel Aviv administration, on 26 March, under the auspices of Washington, is the cornerstone of the comprehensive solution of the Middle East question.

After alleging that the treaty is the road leading to solution of the Palestine issue, As-Sadat did not hesitate to address a warning to the Palestine resistance.

As-Sadat admitted most insolently that his regime has interfered militarily in 10 African countries to suppress liberation movements there.

In his speech to the Egyptian People's Assembly, he once more attacked the Arab countries which stood up to his defeatist policy.

CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER FERNANDEZ DEPARTS

LD060400 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpt] Marcelo Fernandez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and minister of foreign trade, left Algeria at noon today at the end of a 4-day visit to our country during which he was received by President Chadli Bendjadid and held talks with the minister of trade.

LIBYA

SPEECH BY 'TRAITOR-EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT' REPORTED

LD051748 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1415 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, 5 April, JANA--A number of deputies at the Egyptian People's Assembly interrupted the speech which the defeated Egyptian president made before noon today. The traitor-Egyptian president refused to reply to a deputy who accused him openly of betraying the Arab nation. The defeated Egyptian president also criticized the members of the 23 July Council of the Revolution who condemned the capitulation treaty in a statement they circulated to press and news agencies in Egypt. The defeated Egyptian president waged an unprecedented and obscene attack on all the Arab countries, in particular the Jamahiriyah, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE. In his speech before the so-called People's Assembly he described these countries as traders in politics and nationalism. He also snubbed all aid and support he had received from the Arab countries but he paid tribute to the stand of the shah, the United States and the Zionist enemy saying that they were the only ones on whom he could rely in determining the future of the people and army of Egypt. He also extolled the stands of Somalia, Sudan and Oman. The defeated president also attacked the progressive patriotic forces in Egypt, which stand up to his defeatist and capitulatory stands. He again attacked the great popular uprising on 18-19 January 1977 and once more he described the people as thieves.

MAURITANIA

MAURITANIAN COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL SECURITY SET UP

NC061000 Paris AFP in English 0937 GMT 6 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Nouakchott, April 6, (AFP)--A Mauritanian committee of National Security headed by Colonel Mustapha Ould Saleck was set up today, national radio reported.

Shortly before the announcement military reinforcements were seen at major points throughout the town.

COLONEL BOUCEIF REPORTEDLY APPOINTED AS PRIME MINISTER

NC061047 Paris AFP in English 1029 GMT 6 Apr 79 NC

[Text] Nouakchott, April 6, (AFP)--Reliable sources said that Colonel Ahmed Ould Bouceif had become prime minister. Col. Ould Bouceif was information [minister] in the previous administration. A new government list was expected to be announced shortly.

Nouakchott was reported calm.

TUNISIA

CUBAN TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES 5 APRIL

LD060404 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Marcelo Fernandez, Cuban trade minister and personal envoy of President Fidel Castro to President Bourguiba, arrived in Tunis this afternoon. He stated that he had come to extend an invitation by the Cuban Government to the Tunisian Government to participate in the third summit conference of the nonalined countries due to be held in Havana in September.

BEGIN ADDRESSES YAMIT RESIDENTS ON FUTURE OF SETTLEMENTS

TA051717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Begin announced there will be no renewed discussion with President as-Sadat about the question of the Yamit District settlements. The prime minister told the Yamit settlers: What was done is irrevocable. We signed a treaty and the treaty must be honored. The prime minister spoke before the Yamit residents after stormy protest demonstrations in which they demanded he appear before them. The hostile cries and expressions continued during his speech.

Mr Begin told the residents that he receives the insults with love. There was no choice but to sign a peace treaty which contains a hope for peace for our people, the prime minister said. Begin emphasized several times that the decision to remove the settlements was made by the Knesset plenum. Our correspondent has learned that the director of the prime minister's office, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, will be appointed as the prime minister's personal representative and will take care of the district residents' problems. Begin promised that the government will help groups of settlers and individual settlers.

At the end of his speech the prime minister left for Netiv Ha'asara. Our correspondents Shalom Oren and Shim'on Schiffer were in Yamit.

BEGIN MEETS WITH HOSTILITY IN NETIV HA'ASARA

TA060810 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Apr 79 pp 1, 6 TA

[By Dani Tzidqoni]

[Excerpt] Harsh verbal exchanges took place yesterday between the prime minister and the representatives of 13 Yamit District settlements at their meeting in Netiv Ha'Asara.

Answering the claim that he had come to meet with the settlers only under the pressure of their demonstrations, Begin angrily answered that this is futile talk without foundation. He mentioned that the Alinement bound all his Knesset members to vote for the peace agreement while the Likud members enjoyed freedom of voting. Dr Ben-Elisar is the man he will appoint as his personal representative to take care of the district problems and another person, who is "a pioneer and a settler," will also be appointed to this task.

When the prime minister left this meeting the members of the settlement were waiting for him. Most of them received him with songs, some of them with hostile slogans. Begin told the members of the settlement that their representatives made harsh remarks to him and that he understands their spirit, that the pain is deep and justified, but that he too made several harsh remarks to them. On his way to his car the following slogans were heard: "Jewish Blood is Sure to Be Shed Here," "You Will Also Return Jerusalem," and "You Too Will Have Nowhere to Live." At nearly 2000 in the evening the prime minister's helicopter left the Rafah approaches.

ISRAEL TO BAN UN COMMISSION ENTRY INTO TERRITORIES

TA051104 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Apr 79 p 2 TA

[By Yuval Elitzur, MA'ARIV; U.S. correspondent]

[Text] The Israeli ambassador to the United Nations, Prof Yehuda Blu, has informed the chairman of the UN Security Council, Amb Ole Algard from Norway, that Israel will not permit the entry of a commission the United Nations intends to send here with regard to the resolution adopted on 22 March.

The commission is to investigate conditions in the territories and is to be sent in accordance with a resolution adopted after Jordan submitted a complaint. The UN Security Council devoted seven sessions to the debate on that issue.

Immediately after the resolution was adopted, Blum announced that Israel would not permit the commission to enter Israel. Now he has submitted a formal announcement to that effect.

Blum told the chairman of the Security Council that the commission in question was appointed by request of Jordan and its allies with the intention of jeopardizing the Middle East peace process.

COUNCIL WARNS AMERCIANS AGAINST INTERVENTION

TA052109 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1930 GMT 5 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Hebron, 5 April--The Council of Jewish Settlement beyond the green line has decided to forcefully prevent the entrance of U.S. representatives, or people acting under U.S. inspiration, to the area of settlements in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

An ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria reports that the Council of Jewish settlement this week sent a letter of warning to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv. The council claims that for several years U.S. representatives have acted beyond the green line to create a social and physical texture or infrastructure for a Palestinian state. It claims that they are also acting against the establishment of new Jewish settlements and toward the uprooting of the existing settlements. The council also accused the U.S. representatives acting in the territories for creating tensions between the Jewish settlers and their Arab neighbors.

The council also sent a letter to Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman demanding that the Jewish settlements in the territories not be turned into part of the security deployment in the planning for the autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

In their letter the council members claim that if the Jewish settlements turn into a military locality they will view this as an end to Jewish settlement in these areas.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE BANS CONFISCATION OF BEDOUIN LANDS

TA051352 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 5 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Today, the High Court of Justice banned the state from taking over lands populated by Bedouins in the vicinity of Kibbutz Lahav in the Negev and ordered all mechanical equipment removed from the area within 1 day. Following the transfer of this equipment into the area, a violent incident took place between Bedouins and policemen yesterday.

The president of the High Court of Justice, Yo'el Zusman, said that the state is accused of offending the court because it allowed its representatives to enter the area and begin infrastructure work. The judges emphasized this was a violation of an explicit promise by the government's legal adviser that there would be no incursions into Bedouin territory except when authorized by the district court.

Our correspondent Moshe Negbi points out that in the course of the hearing, the high justices reprimanded the government with unprecedented harshness. They said this was the most regrettable incident of breaching a government's undertaking that they had ever come across. The justices demanded that the court be given the name of the civil servant responsible for yesterday's incident and said they would not hesitate to send him to prison.

At one point during the hearing, Justice Zusman said it would be advisable for the legal adviser himself, Professor Zamir, to come to the court and justify the state's deeds. Justice Landau remarked that the impression was that the legal adviser was not aware of events in the field where, according to the justice, there was pandemonium.

The court ruled that the state should pay the Bedouin plaintiffs the expenses of the trial, amounting to 10,000 Israeli pounds.

Further Details on Bedouin Incidents

TA052145 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2020 GMT 5 Apr 79 TA

[Text] Beersheba, 5 April--In the disputed area of the planned Bedouin town of (Lagiya), near the road to 'Arad, clashes continued today.

During the clashes several policemen, who were stoned by local high school students and adult Bedouins, were hurt as well as several Bedouins, including a woman. The police arrested seven members of the minorities including students from Ben-Gurion University who came to the area to disrupt the work of the bulldozers. Including those detained on Wednesday, 15 members of the minorities are now being held by the Beersheba police. Dozens of policemen and border guards who arrived in 16 police cars took up positions. The Negev police imposed a blackout on action in the area.

The work of the bulldozers was stopped at 1500 after the announcement of the ruling by the High Court of Justice ordering a halt in the work.

The representatives of the detained Bedouins are now demanding their release, in the wake of the decision by the High Court of Justice, based on Clause 19 of the Land Law, which states that any landowner may oppose any invader with reasonable force.

KNESSET TO CONVENE FOR DISCUSSION OF BEDOUIN ISSUE

TA060652 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Apr 79 TA

[Text] The Knesset will convene for a special recess session, probably on Monday, at the initiative of the Alinement and Shay factions and as a result of the decision taken yesterday by the High Court of Justice concerning the issue of the Negev Bedouin. The High Court ruled that the state is guilty of contempt of court in permitting its representatives to introduce heavy equipment into a Bedouin area to begin infrastructure work yesterday. The court said that it would not hesitate to send the civil servant responsible for it to jail.

The High Court justices expressed themselves in strong terms, saying that this is the most sorry incident of a breach of a government promise they had ever encountered.

As a result of this decision, the Alinement and Shay Knesset factions issued a joint statement saying that such harsh words have never been voiced by High Court justices on government conduct in the entire history of the State of Israel. This, no doubt, is another low point in the Likud government honoring the principle of the authority of the law.

The two factions' statement says that this Cabinet is demonstrating absolute insensitivity to the basic rights of the citizens. The two factions say that they have collected the necessary 30 signatures.

To repeat, the Knesset will probably meet for an extraordinary session on Monday.

In reaction to this, Coalition Executive Chairman MK Hayim Corfu said that one should regret the steps prompting the court to use such harsh words. It is stupidity to say that the Cabinet is violating the law, MK Corfu said. He claims that there was no intention of misleading or intentionally violating promises. The Cabinet is careful to carry out every little detail of the law, the chairman of the Coalition Executive says.

Ya'aqov 'Aqnin, the director of the Israel Land Administration speaking about the affair and the violent incident that took place the day before yesterday near Tel Shoqet, said that all elements acting in the Bedouin area acted innocently, thinking that the District Court ruling regarding stopping the work in the Bedouin town did not apply to the new groundbreaking work, as before the ruling was made an administrative decree was issued on the groundbreaking.

In another ruling, the High Court of Justice decided yesterday that in 1 and 1/2 months, the IDF carried out ground work without having obtained the legal permission for it in the area of Tel Malhata, slated for the construction of a Negev airfield. Our correspondent notes that in the beginning of February, the IDF began working there. The local Bedouins appealed to the High Court of Justice last month, claiming that the land is their's and that the IDF is not allowed to work there. Only after the appeal was submitted did the authorities take care to issue a governmental decree permitting work to be carried out.

In the High Court of Justice, the deputy state attorney promised that even when the work is done the Bedouin will not be evacuated from the area unless this is approved by an authorized court. As a result of this promise, the appeal was overruled, but the Court charged the state with paying the expenditure of the trial--5,000 Israeli pounds.

GUSH EMUNIM TO ESTABLISH TEN NEW SETTLEMENTS

TA051422 Tel Aviv Hatzofe in Hebrew 5 Apr 79 p 2 TA

[Text] During the Passover holiday, Gush Emunim will lay the cornerstones for 10 new settlements in Judaea and Samaria. This will be done in festive ceremonies which will be under the slogan: "In the Face of Confusion from Within and Pressures from Without, We Will Uplift the Settlement and Pioneering Work."

Gush Emunim members told the ITIM correspondent in Judaea and Samaria that they have received permits to conduct the ceremonies, to be held in the following places:

--Lucifer observation point--in the southern part of the Hebron Hills, where the Yatir nucleus--comprised of retired IDF officers--will settle. The place used to be a Jordanian police station where camel riders were stationed until the Six Day War.

--Ma'ale Zif--In the Hebron hills, not far from the ruins of the town of Zif well known during King David's time. Retired Orthodox IDF soldiers will settle there.

--'Anata--which is the biblical Anathoth near Jerusalem, famous during the prophet Jeremiah's time, where the Arab village of 'Anata is located.

--Hadasha--located in the Bet El hills west of Giv'on and on the peaks of the Latrun-Ramallah road. The place became famous during the Maccaban wars. A nucleus from Jerusalem will settle there.

--Ma'ale Ha'adumin--located on the old road paved at the time by the Jordanian legion from the village of 'Anata to Ma'ale Ha'adumim on the Jerusalem-Jericho road, on the same land appropriated several years ago for defense purposes. An urban nucleus will settle there.

--Levona--not far from the Christian Arab village of Rantis on the peaks of the hills overlooking the Dan district. An Israeli aircraft industries nucleus will settle there.

--Umm Safa'--on the peaks of the hills overlooking Lod and Ramla, not far from the Hebrew village bearing that name. Retired IDF soldiers will settle there.

--Ma'ale Nahal--in the Janin district not far from the ruins of the biblical town of Dothan, where Hesder Yeshivot [Yeshivot students serve a shortened period of time in the IDF, as per a special arrangement with the deans of the Yeshivot] students will settle.

--Haramata--located on the Petah Tiqva-Nabulus road, between the existing settlements of Elqana and Ari'el, not far from the Arab village of Haris.

--Elon More--located on a hill overlooking the town of Nabulus. There Elon More people, temporarily living in the Qadum Cap, will settle.

AL-'ARISH REFUGEES MAY RETURN TO GAZA STRIP

TA051545 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Apr 79 TA

[Text] About 60 refugee families who were transferred after the Six Day War from the Gaza Strip camps to Al-'Arish will apparently be transferred to Rafah shortly. The military authorities informed these families they will receive financial aid in the form of a loan or a grant if they want to return to Rafah. Our correspondent notes that since the As-Sadat visit about 40 refugee families returned from Al-'Arish to the Gaza Strip and additional families expressed their desire to leave Al-'Arish before it is handed over to Egypt.

MORE ON GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ENTEZAM'S PRESS CONFERENCE

LD052334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2050 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpts] Amir Entezam, deputy prime minister and government spokesman, took part in a press, radio and television conference. He answered questions put to him by domestic and foreign correspondents.

He began the press conference by commenting on the bills passed by the Council of Ministers, saying: In order to benefit from the views and ideas of owners of productive units, and for agricultural and animal husbandry sectors to improve their situation and expand their products, agricultural chambers will be set up in Tehran and the provinces. The Agriculture and Rural Development Ministry will prepare guideline regulations. Furthermore, the law concerning changing the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the law on reorganizing agriculture throughout the country, passed on 26 June 1977, will be abrogated. The Council of Ministers, upon a proposal submitted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and on the basis of Article 1 governing the authorization to plant poppies and to export opium, approved in March, 1968, approved it. [as heard]

The deputy prime minister added: So far, the Provisional Revolutionary Government has approved 82 degrees and 42 legislative bills.

Commenting on the transfer of F-14 jets from Iran, the deputy prime minister said: As a result of investigations carried out, it has transpired that all these aircraft are in Iran. Referring to transgressions made by members of some committees, he said: No one is authorized to bother anyone else in streets or public places, under any pretext. The culprits will be punished by revolutionary courts.

Concerning the figures on prisoners arrested by revolutionary courts, the deputy prime minister said: These figures are not available to me. I only heard this this morning from the [word indistinct] radio. Obviously, once the bill is finally passed and reported by the radio, these courts will start their independent operation.

In reply to a question in connection with rumors about increasing the number of those banned from leaving the country from 16,000 to 22,000, Entezam said: I do not know where they got these figures, for the list comprising 16,000 people is not the one we prepared. This was a list made available to the passport department, comprising the names of those banned from leaving the country. This was not a political list. It consisted of names of individuals and international criminals, all of whom are Iranian nationals. Their crimes were of a nonpolitical nature. Of course, the head of the passport department informed me of this. As for the list prepared in the office of the prime minister, I must say that I really do not know the exact number. At any rate, I can neither refute nor confirm the figure of 22,000.

Commenting on the Esfahan steelworks closure, which has been operating at a loss, Entezam said: This is one of the many scores of units which operate as a company or independent enterprise. As you know, in the past they used to decide about an enterprise without considering its economic viability, hence wasing the country's national revenues. As for our need for production of steel and steelworks, there is no doubt that we do need such enterprises. At the same time, there is no doubt either that the Esfahan steelworks has been mismanaged. These are among the issues which require research. Therefore, the government should be given the chance to study the situation and appoint its own officials.

The deputy prime minister added: What is certain is that those agreements or industries which are not useful will be abrogated or closed down. This applies to unnecessary agreements signed with other countries as well; these agreements will be cancelled also. We will do our utmost to apply maximum economy in all organizations and state-owned companies.

Commenting on the establishment of a revolutionary court in the army, Entezam said: I have never heard of the existence of a revolutionary court in the army. There exists only one Revolutionary Court in Tehran, governing both the army and civilian issues.

As for abrogating the current laws, Entezam said: The government is studying the issue. Any law passed in the past and which is detrimental to the interest of the people will be abrogated. However, there are a great many laws which are useful and there is no reason for their abrogation.

Referring to setting up an intelligence organization, Entezam said: Since the country needs an intelligence organization, a new intelligence organization will be set up under the office of the prime minister. However, this organization has not been set up yet.

When asked a final question on the fact that it has been said that he and Deputy Prime Minister Yazdi are, to use the foreign term, American sympathizers to some extent, Entezam said: I am glad you asked about this. Our people are fully familiar with the background of Engineer Bazargan, Dr Sahabi and of other national or religious leaders, who are older than we are. It is possible that they might at times entertain such ideas about younger people, like myself or my brother, Dr Yazdi. I wish to state that if knowing the English language or having had an education in America could be construed as being American, then what about the 40,000 Irans who are living in America now? The great majority of these Iranians are opposed to U.S. policy. They are patriotic Iranians who are living in America for specific reasons. Therefore, we have always been Iranian and will remain so. We will struggle toward the achievement of the goals of the revolution with all our power, and will work for the realization of our religious, humane and social duties. Thank you.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS BRIEFS KHOMEYNI ON CURRENT SITUATION

LD052124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The Council of Ministers was received this evening by Imam Khomeyni in Qom. The council briefed him on the current situation in the country.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH SRI LANKAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD051524 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Mr Abdul Qadir S. Hameed, Sri Lankan minister of foreign affairs and general secretary of the conference of foreign ministers of the nonalined movement, accompanied by a political delegation and by Dr Salamatian, political undersecretary in the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met the Imam Khomeyni in Qom at 0900 this morning.

To begin with, Mr Abdul Qadir S. Hameed said: First, permit me to thank you for giving me some of your time. I think that this is one of the most moving moments in my life.

The revolution which you have brought to fruition has proved to the world that a nation cannot be kept under injustice and oppression for ever. Eighty-six countries are already taking part in the nonalined countries' movement, and the State of Pakistan has recently asked to join this movement. Right from the start we have appreciated your statements on nonalinement. You know that the nonalined countries' movement, in view of the differences in political and economic systems, is facing problems, but we are doing our utmost in order to preserve its unity. We will be happy to see Iran become a member of the movement.

Replying, the imam graciously said: I thank you for coming to our country and I am grateful to your head of government and your nation forthe sympathy shown toward the Iranian nation. We began this movement so that we would not become alined and so that the superpowers would not impose themselves on us. Now that--thanks be to God--we have achieved victory, we are continuing to pursue the same course. We have risen so that the superpowers, whether on the left or the right, will not be able to interfere in our country and so that we can put an end to the interference which they carried out during the era of the shah and the one before him, which were contrary to our rights and independence. We have risen in order to put an end to this dependence. We have done so.

We are now a free and independent country, in which our government does not oppress our nation, and in which foreign powers cannot impose their will on our nation. All this is due to the unity of work which has been achieved by the strata of our society, and also thanks to our reliance on the blessed Almighty and Islam. The secret of our victory was reliance on the Almighty and the unity of our purpose, that is, the Islamic Republic.

I call on the Almighty to turn this very conception into a model for the poor nations, so that by reliance on the Almighty and their unity of work, they can triumph over their difficulties and attain strength so that they themselves can run their countries in independence and freedom.

Our country now enjoys the same conception of nonalinement. Right from the start, when we rose up, we did so in order that we would not become alined, and we will pursue this to the very end. Of course, the question of membership in the movement is a matter which the government should study. It should then announce the result of this study.

I call on the Almighty so that all the weak and oppressed people can triumph over the haughty, and so the Almighty's will can be realized, since He has promised that the weak and oppressed will inherit the earth. Perhaps we, to begin with, are an example of that promise being fulfilled. Once again I thank you and your head of government.

Then the Sri Lankan foreign minister, at the conclusion of this meeting, said: I am very happy to thank you on behalf of the weak and oppressed nations. We beseech the Almighty to free all the shackled, weak and oppressed peoples and to grant them freedom.

The imam graciously said: What I have already said about the weak and oppressed is an issue put forward by Islam. Islam has risen in order to put the haughty in their place and so that the weak and oppressed can become their own masters. The Koran makes this clear. We, too, by following the Koran, say the same thing: May the Almighty grant success to the weak and oppressed so that they can be masters of their destiny.

FINANCE MINISTER ARDALAN DISCUSSES OIL PRICES

LD052252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] 'Ali Ardalan, minister of economic affairs and finance, answered questions posed by reporter Hassan Hafezi on the economic situation in the government, the budget and taxes. Our colleague asked him if--bearing in mind the fact that long-term contracts for the sale of oil are no longer an issue and that the relationship between the NIOC and the Consortium for the sale of oil has been terminated--we will sell the oil to whoever pays the most for it. He also asked Ardalan about the financial situation of the country. The minister of finance and economic affairs said:

NIOC is determined to sell the oil independently. Since we are free from obligations to the Consortium, we can sell the oil at a much higher price than that offered by the Consortium. According to this program and NIOC's present opportunities, we have also made revisions in our budget, and the plan and budget organization has drawn up the budget in such a way that we will have no deficits.

Our colleague said that what you have just said applies to the short term. What will we do in the long term? The minister of economic affairs and finance said: This year's budget has been drawn up on a quarterly basis, and to a great extent, it is not possible to foresee the future. We are attempting to use our income to take care of our needs, whether for current expenses or for our plans for the future.

Our colleague asked: What is the view of the Iranian Government concerning the price of oil at the future OPEC meeting? Mr Ardalan answered: The Iranian Government previously wished to have a complete review of oil, and with the attempts which were exerted with the help of other OPEC members, the price of oil was increased by about 16 or 17 percent. But we have kept the file on the price of oil open, and in the resolution of the OPEC meeting it was stated that next June, 3 months from now, the price of oil will again be reviewed and the price will be changed.

QOTBZADEH DISCUSSES AIMS OF RADIO-TV ORGANIZATION

LD052146 [Editorial Report LD] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1844 GMT on 4 April broadcasts a 55-minute live or recorded radio and television address by Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the head of the Iranian radio and television organization, in which he explains the aims of the organization and defends its policies. He begins by saying that radio and television should be like public universities directing the people. He goes on to say that the framework and teachings of the organization are based on Islam, and therefore the programs will be prepared on this basis. In this respect, the religious beliefs of the people must be taken into consideration.

Qotbzadeh continues by recounting the different problems and technical and administrative difficulties facing the radio and television organization. He defends it against criticism of news censorship. Citing instances where people have protested because their messages were not read on the radio or because a radio interview was shortened due to lack of time.

Qotbzadeh then continues: "I must point out here that there is a group--which is fortunately very small--which has not given up its provocation. This group is resorting to daily provocations, creating fundamental problems for us every day under various guises. This is a minor part of the broadcasting, especially production, group. This group does not include the technical section, which has fortunately declared its availability, with considerable sincerity. It includes directors and producers."

"The people can be divided into three sections: There are those who have understood the revolution and are interested in working; at least on a personal basis, they have told us they are willing to work with us because they believe that the revolution must progress by means of their skill and interest. There are also those who have not comprehended the dimensions of the revolution correctly, and they hesitate. Then there are those who, unfortunately, have not ceased creating obstacles and spreading rumors. Consequently, the production unit, namely the unit where directors and producers work, excluding the technical unit, is abolished as of this date."

Qotbzadeh then attacks those who are creating a war of nerves and who are spreading malicious rumors against him and his organization. He discusses the administrative status of the employees, and finally expresses gratitude for the strong support which he and his organization have received from the people so far.

LABOR MINISTRY TO STUDY TABRIZ UNEMPLOYMENT

LD052004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, a delegation from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs arrived in Tabriz to investigate the unemployment problem in Eastern Azarbaijan. According to the suggestion of the governor general of Eastern Azarbaijan, this group will meet the unemployed people of Tabriz on Saturday at the workers' club of Tabriz, and will discuss loans with them.

FOREIGN MINISTER SANJABI MEETS ARAB REPRESENTATIVES

LD051952 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, the representatives of the general Arab people's congress, composed of Libya, Iraq, Egypt and the PLO, met with Dr Karim Sanjabi, the Iranian foreign minister. At this meeting relations between our country and the Arab liberation movements were discussed and the foreign minister expressed Iran's support for the liberation movements of our Arab Muslim brothers.

FOREIGN MINISTRY RECEIVES LETTER FROM 'ARAFAT

LD060932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has sent a letter to the Iranian Foreign Ministry condemning the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. He declared: This treaty is the continuation of measures which have been called the Camp David agreements. In his letter, Yasir 'Arafat expressed gratitude to the Iranian Government for censuring the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, signed under U.S. auspices, adding: The imposed and conspiratorial Egyptian-Israeli treaty was the gift to the Arabs in order to cover over and make up for the rest of its defeats in the Middle East following the Iranian Islamic revolution led by the Imam Khomeyni.

GONBAD-E KAVUS RETURNS TO NORMAL, SHOPS OPEN

LD051228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent's report from Gonbad-E Kavus, after several days' of disturbances, the city has returned to a state of tranquility, and shops and offices have resumed their regular activity.

SECURITY FORCES, POLICE CONTROL PARTS OF ARDABIL

LD052052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The security forces, together with members of the police force and the highway police, have started work in the city of Ardabil, east of Tabriz. They were witnessed by a large number of the city's inhabitants, who draped garlands of flowers around the necks of the security forces. The latter are currently carrying out their duties in various parts of the city, together with the guardians of the revolution.

FARS GOVERNOR GENERAL WARNS SHIRAZ SHOPKEEPERS

LD052054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The governor general of Fars has warned shopkeepers that if food needed by the general public is still sold at great profit, then the office of the governor general, in order to safeguard the interests of the people of Shiraz, will take strong legal action against the profiteers.

EXECUTION OF THREE PEOPLE IN ESFAHAN ANNOUNCED

LD060750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 6 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The following communique was issued at dawn this morning by the Islamic Revolution Justice Department of Esfahan:

In carrying out Article 33 of the regulations of the Islamic revolution courts to the effect that the sentences passed by the said courts, following the passing of these regulations, are immediately enforceable; and following the setting up of open courts on 17 and 19 March 1979, and on 22 March 1979, in accordance with the regulations' articles, the following individuals have been condemned to the following punishments in accordance with the sentences passed: 1) Mahmud Shahidi, active member and interrogator of SAVAK, to death and the confiscation of his properties for the crime of corruption on earth; 2) Kamal Adib, SAVAK interrogator and torturer, to death for the crime of torture and corruption on earth; 3) Mahmud 'Askarizadeh, policeman, to death for the crime of murdering the martyred Mojahed Ahmad Khansari. The said sentences were carried out at 0400 in the presence of the representative of the public prosecutor, a clergyman and the coroner.

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Justice Department.

GROUPS SET UP TO INVESTIGATE FORCED OCCUPATION OF PROPERTY

LD051458 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Apr 79 LD

[Text] In each Iranian city, a group will be formed by the office of the prime minister to investigate the problems of violence, murder, forced occupation, and the occupation of lands, farming land, orchards and other agricultural property. In each city this group will comprise one judge, one employee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, a member of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and two local dignitaries, one of whom will be a member of the clergy. In the announcement of this from the prime minister's office, it was stated that each group will investigate all complaints regarding forceful occupation that took place after 5 February.

NVOI VIEWS GOVERNMENT'S WITHDRAWAL FROM CENTO

TA052152 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2130 GMT 28 Mar 79 TA

[Text] Dear compatriots, through an official note the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran informed the governments of Turkey, Pakistan and Britain, the permanent and official members of CENTO, of its withdrawal from the pact. The note of our country's Foreign Ministry indicates that the great revolution of the people of Iran made it necessary to adhere to the independent responsibilities of the written principles of the United Nations, and also the adoption of a truly nonalined policy in international relations. Thus, the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran forfeited its military, economic and political obligations to the CENTO treaty, obligations imposed on our country by imperialist America, Britain and the homeless traitor shah. By joining the nonalined nations, the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government proved that it intends to implement Iran's wishes through this anti-imperialist movement.

The people of our fatherland (?expect) the Provisional Revolutionary Government to adopt a truly national foreign policy and to proceed step by step toward this goal. During the short period since the Provisional Revolutionary Government assumed its duties, this government proved that its goals and the basis of its foreign policy are the defense of Iran's independence, Iran's territorial integrity, its deliverance from the despotism of imperialist governments, above all from American imperialism, and for solidarity with the free nations of the world. Iran's official withdrawal from the imperialist CENTO treaty emphasizes once again that the Provisional Revolutionary Government is aware of the material and moral losses sustained by our country and the loss of Iran's international prestige. That was why, bearing in mind the profound wishes of the Iranian people, the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran declared officially its withdrawal from the imperialist CENTO treaty.

Much to our joy, our two neighbor countries Pakistan and Turkey followed the anti-imperialist decision of the Provisional Revolutionary Islamic Government of Iran, and withdrew from CENTO, striking a terrible and deadly blow at the faces of imperialist America and Britain. Ever since membership in the military CENTO pact was imposed by America and Britain on Iran, the Iranian people began an extensive struggle against it. They rightfully believed that, as a result of the CIA's and the Pentagon's coup d'etat, the imposition of membership in CENTO (?deprived) our country of military, economic and political independence. Everyone realized that this imperialist group subordinated the Iranian Army to the Pentagon and that it cost the Iranian people tens of billions of dollars to pay for arms and ammunition and the salaries and fringe benefits of American military specialists and advisors. It was because of membership in this imperialist pact that the detested and fugitive shah, sacrificing the interests of Iran, assumed the filthy role of American gendarme in the area in order to defend the strategic (?bases) of American imperialism. With the fall of the murderous shah's regime, which was a lucrative source in that area, American imperialism now resorts to every possible means, such as formation of a new military group in the Middle and Near East, to reverse the shameful lesson America learned.

American imperialism should realize that there is a tremendous difference between the era of a quarter of a century ago and the present time. The freedom-loving people of our fatherland and other countries in the region will no longer sacrifice their military, economic and political interests to greedy and plundering imperialism and its oil cartels. Based on the decision of the Provisional Revolutionary Government to withdraw officially from CENTO, the people of our country want to cancel all bilateral military agreements with America, which have harmed the economic and political freedom of our country, and want to banish despotism and imperialism from our country forever.

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIET DEFENSE DELEGATION BEGINS VISIT ON 5 APRIL

BK051450 Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 5 Apr 79 BK

[Text] His Excellency Gen Aleksey Alekseyevich Yerishev, the first deputy minister of defense of the USSR [title as heard] and general president of the political affairs of the Army and Navy of the USSR, arrived in Kabul heading the delegation on official and friendly visit at the invitation of the general president of the political affairs of the Armed Forces of the people of Afghanistan.

They were welcomed at the Kabul Airport by Iqbal, general president of political affairs of the Armed Forces of the people of Afghanistan; Major Mohammad Yakkub, chief of general staff; Col (Ghulam Shafi), Air Force and Air Defense commander; Engineer Saheb (Daud Salem), commander of [word indistinct] and security forces; Captain (Aleja), commander of (?Signal) Corps; Engineer Major (Fazel Qader), president of Naval Department of the Ministry of Defense; and Captain (Khaled), chief of Political Department of the People's Armed Forces of Afghanistan; Aleksandr Mikhailovich Puzanov, USSR ambassador, and other members of the Soviet Embassy.

INDIA

KASHMIR STATE ASSEMBLY MOURNS BHUTTO'S DEATH

BK060404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Both houses of the Jammu and Kashmir legislature have expressed profound sorrow over the execution of the former prime minister of Pakistan, Mr Bhutto. Obituary references to Mr Bhutto were unanimously carried both in the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. Many members, both from the ruling National Conference and the opposition, demanded steps to liberate the Pakistan-occupied areas of Kashmir.

Speaking in the Assembly, the chief minister, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, said India is the only country east of Turkey where the experiment of democracy has succeeded. He said India firmly believes that of all the systems of government, democracy is the best.

The budget session of the state legislature ended yesterday. Both the houses were adjourned sine die.

PRO-BHUTTO RIOTER KILLED IN INDIAN KASHMIR

BK051714 Hong Kong AFP in English 1707 GMT 5 Apr 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, April 5 (AFP)--One person was killed and three others received injuries when police opened fire today on a riotous mob which made repeated attempts to burn the houses of Jamaat-I-Islami supporters in Malalpora area of Anantnag District, in Indian-held Kashmir, the latest reports said.

With this the death toll since yesterday has risen to six. Five persons were killed in police firing yesterday, three of them in Srinagar and two in Sopore town, the reports said.

The mobs were protesting against the execution of former Pakistan Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. Today was the second day of mob violence which spread to other areas of Kashmir Valley and parts of Jammu region.

Quoting an official spokesman, the reports said the police opened fire when the situation became uncontrollable and other methods of warding off the attacks by the crowd failed.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI RADIO REPORTS ON INCIDENTS FOLLOWING BHUTTO DEATH

60 Arrests in Sind

BK051533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Apr 79 BK

[Text] A press note issued by the Sind government in Karachi this evening says that the overall situation in Sind Province was peaceful except at Naudero, where the situation was brought under control after the imposition of Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons]. No report of loss of life from any part of the province has been received.

The press note further says that about 60 persons, who were engaged in illegal activities, were arrested from various cities including Karachi, Daddu, Larkanan, Nawabshah and Khairpur.

Prohibitory Orders

BK051726 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Today [there were] namaze janaza [prayers] in a number of cities in the Punjab. By and large, proceedings were peaceful, barring a few incidents in Rawalpindi, Lahore, Multan and Faisalabad. In Rawalpindi a congregation of about 8,000 gathered in Liaqat Bagh. After namaze janaza, a part of the congregation divided in groups and spread out on College Road, Sharai Pahelvi Road and Railway Road indulging in brickbatting and causing damage to two buses, two cars and two scooters. They also caused slight damage to railcar proceeding from Rawalpindi to Lahore. They set on fire the office of the daily JANG in Gualmandi area. The police had to resort to lathi [baton] charges and tear gas as a result of which the crowd dispersed. Some persons were apprehended during the acts of mischief.

In Lahore, a congregation of about 3,000 assembled in Nasir Bagh. After namaze janaza, they left peacefully except some 400 persons who indulged in brickbatting on the lower mall and Bhatti Gate area causing damage to two buses and a few cars.

In Faisalabad, a congregation of about 4,000 assembled in Zaidighat Ground. After prayers, a part of the crowd indulged in brickbatting. The police resorted to lathi charge and the crowd dispersed.

In Multan, a congregation of about 3,000 people assembled in the MCC ground. A small section of the after prayers, spread out in the area and damaged four buses near the GTS bus stand. The timely intervention of the police averted serious damage and the crowd dispersed.

In Sialkot, Gujranwala and Rahim Yar Khan, minor incidents took place, but the timely intervention of the law enforcing agencies averted serious damage. Congregations have been announced for tomorrow at some public places.

In view of today's events, the government has warned that serious note will be taken of any attempt to violate the law. The additional district magistrate of Lahore has imposed section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons] in the revenue limits of the Lahore District. The order comes into force immediately and shall remain effective for about 2 months.

More on Sind Incidents

BK051732 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Apr 79 BK

[Text] According to reports in Nawabshah town, some persons returning after offering Rahbana namaze janaza at 1115 started throwing stones at shops in the main bazar, besides setting a petrol pump and a wagon on fire. The police resorted to lathi charge and tear gas. The processionists later dispersed.

At Sakrand a group of persons damaged a branch of National Bank and set a godown on fire. With the imposition of section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons] in the district the situation was brought under control. Thirty persons involved in unlawful activities have been detained.

In Karachi, over 2,000 persons offered Rahbana namaze janaza at Kukrree Ground in an old part of the city today. After the prayers people returned peacefully. However, some boys set a KESC [Karachi Electricity Supply Corporation] van in the vicinity on fire near the Kukrres ground. It was immediately put out by the fire brigade. The vehicle was, however, partially damaged. Thirteen persons have been arrested. A group of persons tried to set on fire a police outpost in village Ibrahim Hydri in the suburbs of Karachi, but this was foiled. The furniture of the outpost was damaged. They also pelted stones on the customs outpost and tried to enter a thermal power station. The police reached the spot and foiled their attempt.

In Daddu District, eleven persons involved in unlawful activities have been arrested. In Kotri, a group of persons while passing through the main bazar after offering prayers started pelting stones at shops injuring a few persons. Law enforcing agencies immediately reached the spot and detained some persons. A group of persons tried to set on fire a shop after praying namaze janaza in the city mosque. A few (?open crates) were burned on road, but the situation was immediately brought under control. Some arrests were made on the spot.

In Sukkur, a group of persons while returning after offering namaze janaza at Lucas Park this afternoon damaged a zonal office of the bank and a few shops in the commercial area. The situation returned to normal immediately on the arrival of the police.

The law and order situation in other parts of the province remained normal.

Court Sentences Five

BK060402 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Apr 79 BK

[Text] A summary military court in Karachi yesterday sentenced 5 persons to 6 months rigorous imprisonment with 10 lashes each on charges of shouting slogans against the government on 2 April and damaging property. The court also fined two persons 200 rupees each.

Further Sind Incidents

BK060251 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Apr 79 BK

[Text] A press note issued at midnight by the Sind government says that some persons tried to set fire to the State Transport Corporation depot and telephone exchange after namaze janaza [prayers held after someone's death] in Shikarpur and stoned some shops. The police, however, foiled their efforts and dispersed the mob. Some persons in the mob resorted to firing, but additional police units arrived and brought the situation under control. Two police cars were also set on fire. As a result of the exchange of fire between the mob and the police, 4 policemen and 10 civilians were injured.

In Peshawar some persons tried to start a procession while shouting slogans against the government after namaze janaza but dispersed on the arrival of the police.

A provincial government spokesman in Quetta said no untoward incident has been reported, and life continued as normal everywhere.

Ban on Political Gatherings

BK060904 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 6 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Official sources in Rawalpindi said today that 47 persons were arrested in the city yesterday for violating martial law regulations. They will be tried by a summary military court. According to these sources, cases have been filed against them under martial law regulations Nos 5, 13, and 33 A and B. Under these regulations, it is prohibited to hold, organize, or participate in meetings in open places or to start processions without the prior written permission of the martial law administrator. It is also prohibited to spread discord, incite or undermine faith in the armed forces or spread such rumors that cause anxiety and demoralization among the public.

Under Martial Law Regulation 33, any political party or politician is forbidden to conduct any open canvassing or start any movement. It further prohibits any political party or politician from using any religious place or mosque for any activity for political purposes.

HAQ JUSTIFIES BHUTTO HANGING IN INTERVIEW

BK060830 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 6 Apr 79 BK

[Text] The president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, said he has tried to show that nobody is above the law, while considering clemency appeals for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

In an interview with British commercial television, he said he has the strong conviction that what he has done was right and is in the interest of Pakistan and will produce unity in the country. The president also drew attention to the fact that appeals for clemency were made for one man only, while four others, sentenced along with Bhutto, were also human beings.

PRC AIR COMMANDER CONCLUDES VISIT ON 4 APRIL

BK041538 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Apr 79 BK

[Text] Commander of the Chinese Air Force Mr Zhang Tingfa left Rawalpindi for home today after an 11-day visit to Pakistan. The chief of the air staff, Air Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, and high officers of three armed force services bid him farewell. The Chinese ambassador was also present.